R E P O R T R E S U M E S

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SELECTED CHARACTERISTICS OF THE MENTALLY RETARDED CLIENTS REHABILITATED.

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THE NUMBER OF MENTALLY HANDICAPPED PERSONS REHABILITATED THROUGH STATE VOCATIONAL REHABILITATION AGENCIES INCREASED EACH YEAR FROM 1958 TO 1963. MENTALLY HANDICAPPED REHABILITANTS WERE YOUNGER THAN THOSE WITH OTHER DISABILITIES. THERE WERE MORE MALE THAN FEMALE, AND MORE WHITE THAN NEGRO MENTALLY HANDICAPPED REHABILITANTS, ALTHOUGH THE PROPORTION OF NEGRO REHABILITANTS WAS RISING. IN ADDITION TO FURTHER AGE, SEX, AND RACE DATA, THE REPORT INCLUDES DATA CONCERNING CLIENTS' DEPENDENCY STATUS, MOBILITY, REFERRAL, SUPPORT, PUBLIC ASSISTANCE, EARNINGS, WORK STATUS, LENGTH OF REHABILITATION, SERVICES RECEIVED AND THEIR COST, STATUS FOR OLD AGE AND SURVIVORS' DISABILITY INSURANCE, HISTORY PRECEDING REHABILITATION, AND OCCUPATION AT CLOSURE. THE SAME TYPE OF INFORMATION IS PROVIDED FOR CLIENTS WITH MENTAL RETARDATION AS A SECONDARY DISABILITY. INFORMATION IS PRESENTED IN DISCUSSION AND TABULAR (TABLES, GRAPHS, MAPS) FORM. THIS DOCUMENT IS ALSO AVAILABLE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF DOCUMENTS, U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20402. (JZ)

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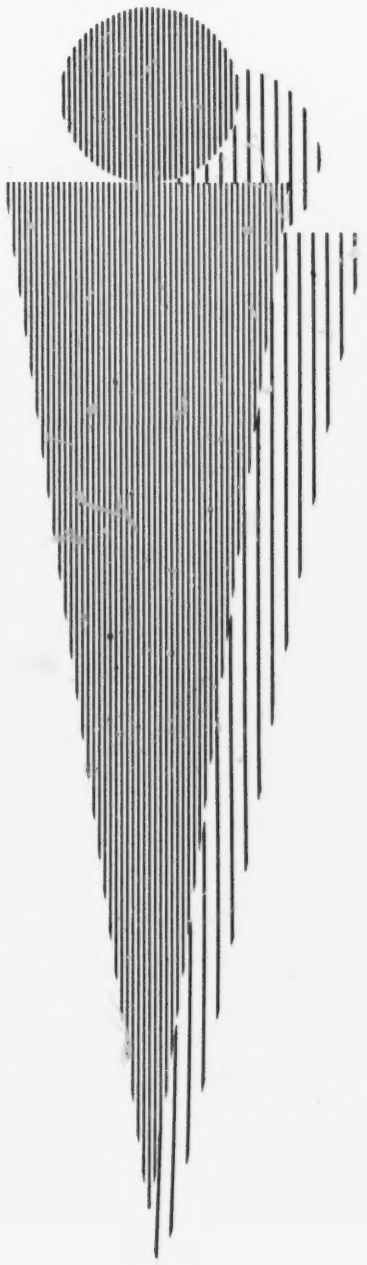
The Rehabilitated

MENTALLY RETARDED



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF
HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE

Vocational Rehabilitation Administration

Selected Characteristics of the Mentally Retarded Clients Rehabilitated by State Vocational Rehabilitation Agencies in Fiscal Years 1958 and 1963

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION & WELFARE
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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH, EDUCATION, AND WELFARE
Vocational Rehabilitation Administration
Division of Statistics and Studies

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201 APRIL 1964

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Subject	*Page*
Introduction	1
Selected Highlights	2
Part I—Characteristics of Rehabilitants with Mental Retardation as a Major Disabling Condition:	
National and State Performance in Rehabilitating the Mentally Retarded	3
Age	5
Sex	7
Race	7
Dependency status	9
Mobility status	9
Sources of referral	12
Primary source of support	13
Public assistance status	14
Earnings	14
Work status	15
Occupation at closure	16
Applicant status for Old-Age and Survivors' Disability Insurance benefits	17
Types of services received and cost of these services	18
Length of time required to rehabilitate a client	19
Preceding rehabilitation history	20
Part II—Characteristics of Persons with Mental Retardation as a Secondary Disability:	
Age, sex, race and dependents	23
Mobility	23
Major disabling condition	23
Sources of referral	23
Primary source of support and public assistance status	25
Earnings	26
Work status and occupation at closure	26
Applicant status for Old-Age and Survivors' Disability Insurance benefits	27
Cost of services for the major disabling condition	28
Types of services received and cost of these services	28
Length of time required to rehabilitate a secondarily retarded client, and previous rehabilitation experience	29

INTRODUCTION

In recent years, remarkable strides have been made in rehabilitating the mentally retarded through the Federal-State Program of Vocational Rehabilitation. The increased performance results from a variety of factors such as:

The development of new and active relationships between vocational rehabilitation agencies and education agencies in order to enlarge the scope of existing services, and to introduce new services and programs.

The establishment of rehabilitation facilities in State institutions for the mentally retarded.

The assignment of special counselors to work closely with the mentally retarded in the larger metropolitan areas.

The improvement of counselor skill and techniques accomplished through inservice training programs and closer working relationships with other groups in the field of mental health.

Increased efforts in the various research and demonstration programs relating to the mentally retarded.

However, in spite of the impact that the mentally retarded have made on the caseload of all State vocational rehabilitation agencies in recent years, very little information concerning the socioeconomic and other characteristics of the group has been developed since 1958. Moreover, no data have been compiled which indicate the accessory role that mental retardation may play in the rehabilitation of clients with other more handicapping disabilities.

As a result of these deficiencies, the Division of Statistics and Studies of the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration initiated this study of mentally retarded rehabilitants to provide information in the following areas:

1. State performance in meeting the problem of retardation.
2. Socioeconomic characteristics and case data of the rehabilitated mentally retarded in fiscal year 1963.
3. Progress made since 1958 in meeting the needs of the retardate.
4. The differences between the retarded and the nonretarded.
5. An identification of those rehabilitated clients who had a secondary disabling condition of mental retardation.

Two groups of mentally retarded rehabilitants were studied; those reported as having mental retardation as the major disabling condition, and those with retardation as a secondary disabling condition. The major disabling condition is defined as the defect, impairment or disease directly resulting in the client's inability to obtain or retain a job. The secondary disabling condition is the next most important disability that contributes substantially to, but is not the major basis of the employment handicap.

The study is divided into two parts: Part I includes the characteristics of rehabilitants with mental retardation as the major disabling condition; Part II covers rehabilitants with some other major disabling condition but with mental retardation as a secondary disability.

The data source was the *Closed Case Record*, Vocational Rehabilitation Administration Form R–300. These records were summarized by the State agency on VRA Forms R–301 through R–305 and forwarded to the Vocational Rehabilitation Administration at the close of fiscal year 1963. Although the report is oriented toward the national picture, all data presented are available for individual States and agencies in unpublished form at the Division of Statistics and Studies, VRA.

All differences between the retarded and the nonretarded in Part I were tested for statistical reliability at the 95 percent level of confidence. A difference is considered to be statistically significant only when it is unlikely that this difference could have occurred by chance alone. At the 95 percent level of confidence, this chance is considered to be not more than 1 in 20. Unless specifically stated otherwise, all differences noted in the text may be considered statistically significant.

* * * * *

This report was prepared by John C. Rumford, Statistician, under the general direction of Sigmund Schor, Chief, Division of Statistics and Studies, Vocational Rehabilitation Administration.

Selected Highlights

Over 7,000 mentally retarded persons were rehabilitated in fiscal year 1963. Of this group, 5,909 were persons with mental retardation as a major disabling condition and 1,152 were reported as having retardation as a secondary disability.

Mental retardation as the major disabling condition—

Persons with mental retardation constituted 5.4 percent of all rehabilitants. In 1958, this proportion was only 2.1 percent. Correspondingly, in 1963 there were 3.1 mentally retarded persons rehabilitated per 100,000 population in the Nation, as compared to 0.9 per unit of population in 1958.

Over two-thirds of the mentally retarded rehabilitated were under the age of 20. For those States reporting race, over 85 percent of the rehabilitants were white; 68 percent were males. Only 5 percent of the retarded had dependents.

Nearly all of the retarded were capable of activity outside the home without help.

The largest single source of referral for the retarded clients was educational institutions.

Before receiving rehabilitation services, three-quarters of the retardates were primarily dependent on family and friends for support. Seventeen percent were being supported by public funds.

Approximately 90 percent were not earning wages before receiving rehabilitation service. After receiving service less than 10 percent of the retarded were not wage earners.

Approximately 40 percent of the mentally retarded entered service type occupations, 20 percent were closed as unskilled workers and 17 percent became semiskilled employees.

Mental retardation as the secondary condition—

The most prevalent major disabling conditions of those rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability were orthopedic conditions, 27 percent, epilepsy, 15 percent, and severe mental illness, 12 percent.

PART I. Characteristics of Rehabilitants with Mental Retardation as a Major Disabling Condition

National performance in rehabilitating the mentally retarded

From the end of World War II to 1963, the number of persons rehabilitated who had mental retardation as a major disability increased from 106 to 5,909.

During the postwar period, this group of rehabilitants increased from less than 1 percent of all rehabilitants to over 5 percent of the total.

Not only has the absolute number of mentally retarded rehabilitants risen substantially over the years, but the rate of progress has far exceeded the rate for all other disability groups. For example, in fiscal year 1963, the number of rehabilitations for the nonretarded increased 6 percent over the previous year. At the same time, the number of rehabilitants with retardation increased 33 percent.

State performance in rehabilitating the mentally retarded

There are three approaches to measuring State performance in the area of rehabilitating the mentally retarded:

1. The number rehabilitated.
2. The rehabilitation rate per 100,000 population.[1] This may be considered a

[1] It is assumed that the mentally retarded comprise about 3 percent of each State's population based on estimates of the Secretary's Committee on Mental Retardation; U.S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (1963).

FIGURE A.—*Number of mentally retarded clients rehabilitated by State vocational rehabilitation agencies from 1945 to 1963*

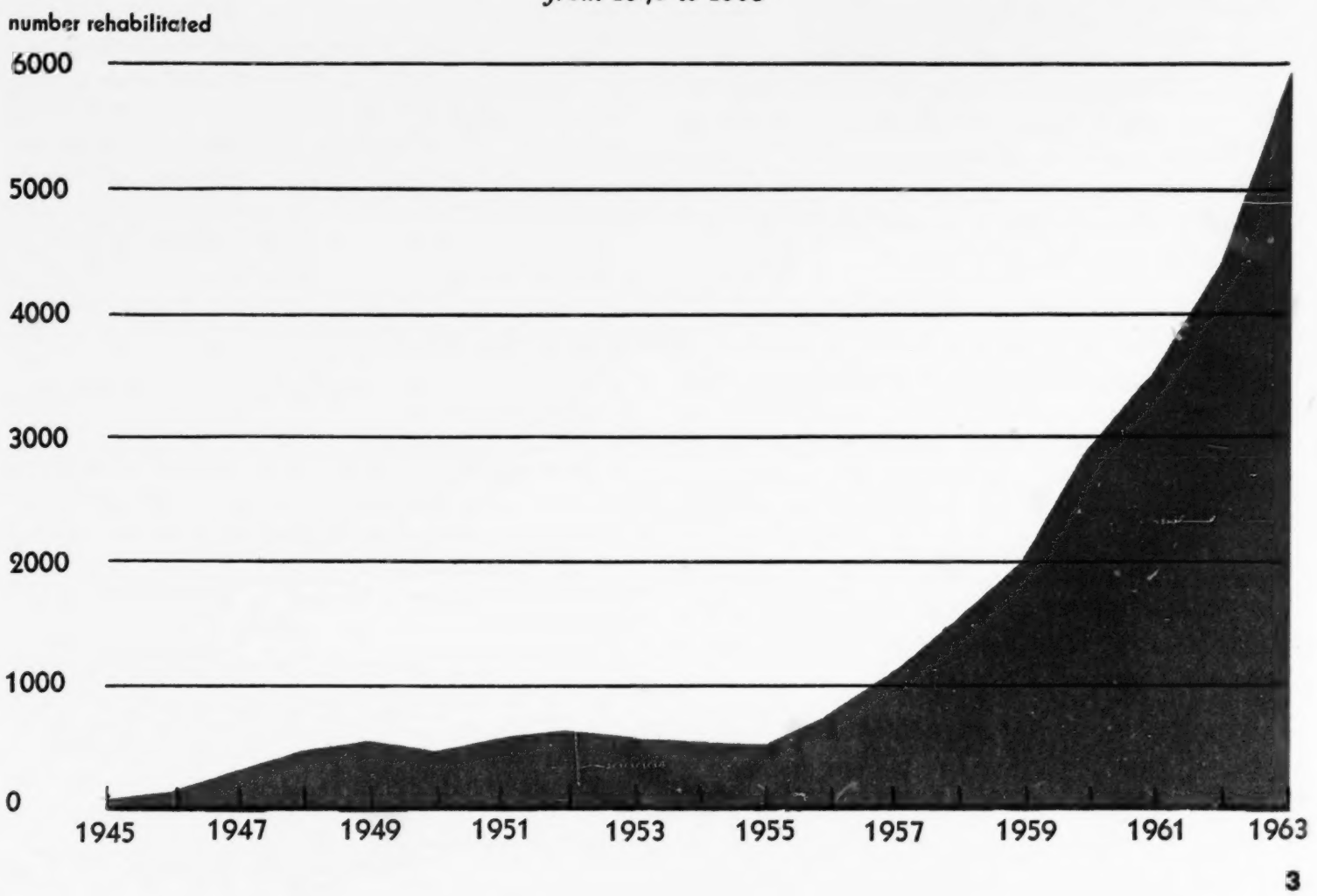
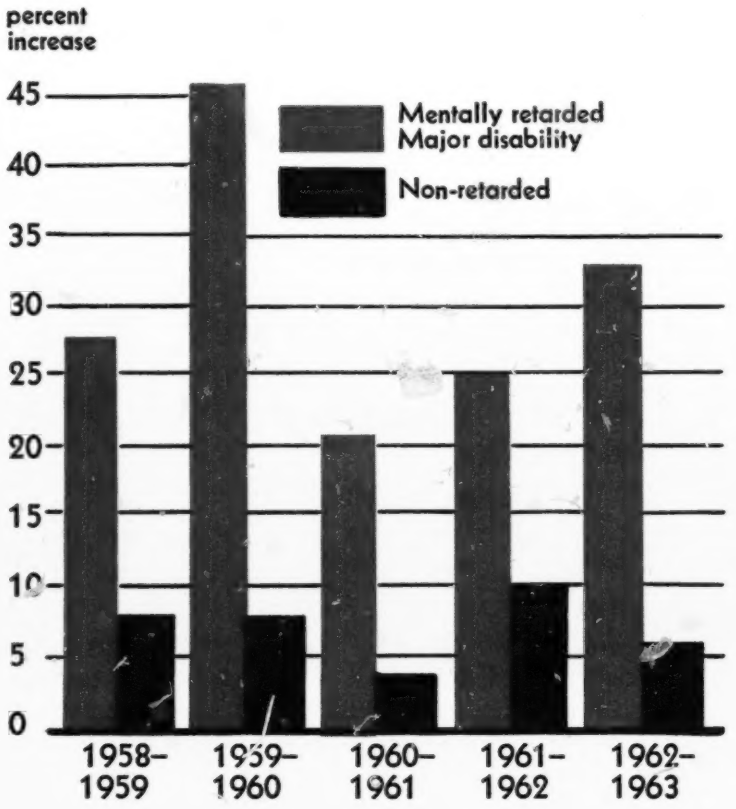


FIGURE B.—*Annual percentage increase in rehabilitations among the mentally retarded and the non-retarded, fiscal years 1958–1963*



measure of how the needs of the retarded in the State are being met.

3. The percentage of all rehabilitants who were mentally retarded. This may be used as a measure of program emphasis in the State agency.

Generally, each of these measures is independent of the other.

1. Number of mentally retarded rehabilitated.

Three of the leading States in the absolute number of mentally retarded rehabilitated in 1963 were Pennsylvania with 889, New York, 531, and Texas, 506. Pennsylvania alone accounted for 15 percent of all the mentally retarded rehabilitated in the United States. Encouraging strides have been made in nearly all States since 1958. Those States which have consistently placed in the upper quartile over the 6-year period were Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Virginia.

2. Mentally retarded rate per 100,000 population.

The rehabilitation rate per 100,000 population is perhaps the most meaningful and equitable measure of relative performance in meeting the specific needs of the mentally retarded in the State.

In fiscal year 1963, the rehabilitation rate for the retarded in the United States was 3 per 100,000 population. The States which led the Nation in rehabilitation rate per unit of population were the District of Columbia, 13 per 100,000, Delaware, 12, Hawaii, 10, Pennsylvania, 8, and West Virginia, 8. Figure c. indicates the distribution by quartiles of State rates per 100,000 population for fiscal year 1963.

As a measure of consistency in rehabilitating the retarded, the average mentally retarded rehabilitation rate per 100,000 population was computed for the combined 6-year observation period (1958–63) for each State (Alaska, Guam, and the Virgin Islands were excluded because of insufficient data). In addition, national rates per 100,000 population were computed for each of the observed years. Figure d. presents the average for each State for all 6 years combined, and for the United States for each year.

Though an analysis of variance [2] was made, it is immediately apparent from this chart that the performance of Delaware and the District of Columbia in the retarded rehabilitation rate per 100,000 for the 6-year period was significantly outstanding. The rates for Delaware through Colorado, as the States are arrayed, are significantly higher than all other States as a group. Rates from Wisconsin to Puerto Rico are essentially the same, although there are significant differences between certain clusters of States within the array.

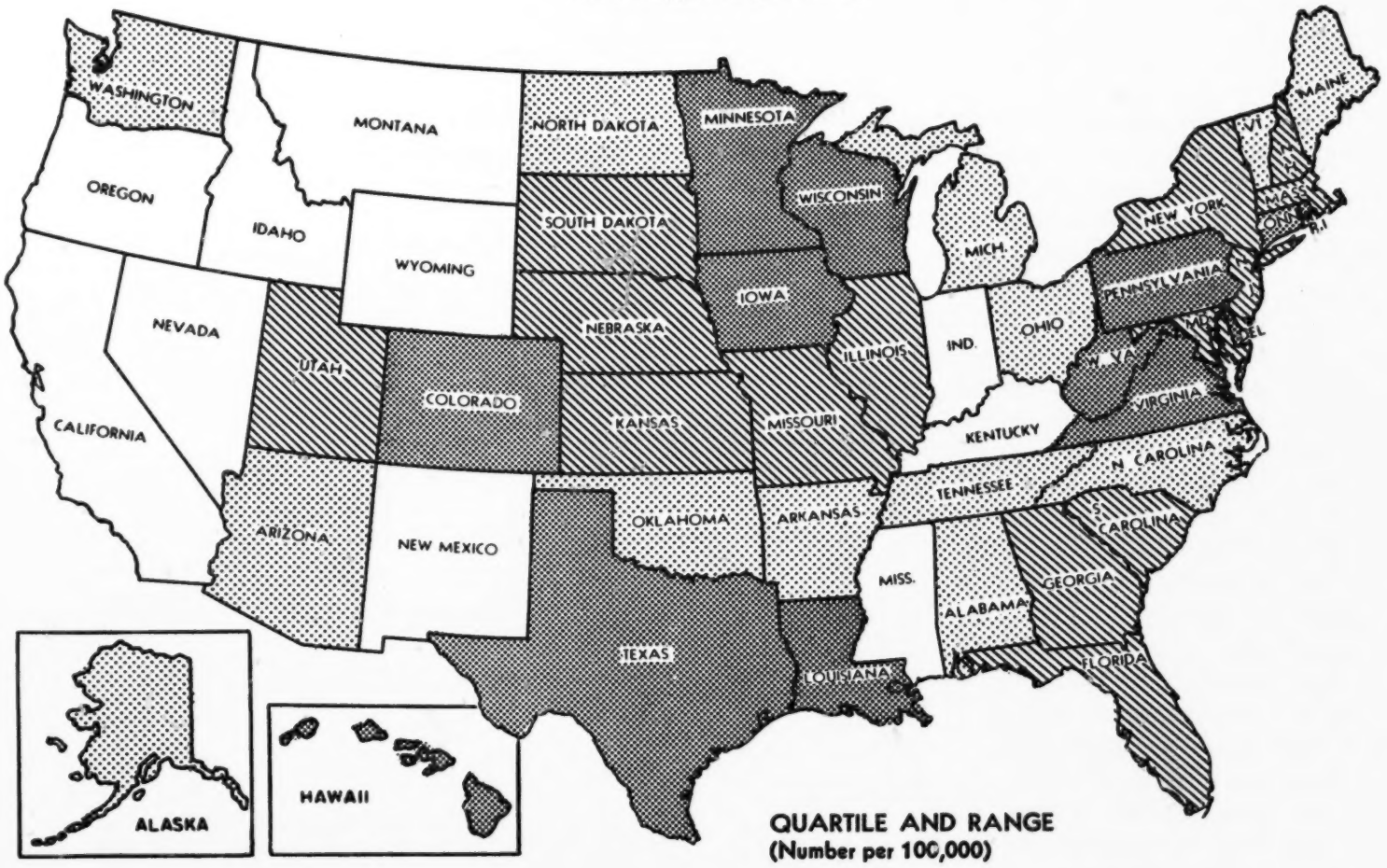
Equally apparent is the impressive rise in retarded rates per 100,000 by year. From a relatively slow start in 1958–59, the rate more than tripled by 1963.

3. Mentally retarded as a proportion of all rehabilitants.

As suggested previously, a useful measure of program emphasis in rehabilitating persons with mental retardation is the proportion of this group to all rehabilitants. In fiscal year 1963, the highest performing States in the percentage of rehabilitants who were mentally retarded were Hawaii with 27 percent, Connecticut, 14 percent, Texas, 13 percent, Iowa, 12 percent, and New

[2] The mathematical aspects of the analysis may be obtained upon request from the Division of Statistics and Studies, Vocational Rehabilitation Administration, Washington, D.C., 20201.

FIGURE C.—*Distribution by quartile of State rehabilitation rates per 100,000 population for the mentally retarded, fiscal year 1963*



Jersey, 11 percent. Figure e. describes the quartile ranking in proportion of all rehabilitants who were mentally retarded in fiscal year 1963.

In order to determine the overall consistency by State and year, these proportions were calculated and plotted as was done for the rates per 100,000 population. Figure f. presents the 6-year average proportion by State, and the average for each year for all States combined.

From the analysis of variance, it was immediately apparent that a concerted emphasis was being placed on rehabilitating the mentally retarded, by Hawaii and Connecticut. The proportions shown for Iowa, Minnesota, New Jersey, Delaware, the District of Columbia and Texas were significantly different from those of all other States. Beyond Texas, as shown in the array, no State has a significantly higher proportion than that shown for many of the adjacent States, though there are significant differences between certain clusters of States within the array.

The yearly progress made for all States from 1958 to 1963 in emphasizing rehabilitations among the retarded is perhaps the most satisfying aspect of the analysis. The proportion of rehabilitants increased from about 2 percent of all rehabilitations in 1958 to over 5 percent in 1963. Each year was significantly higher than the previous year.

Table 1 presents the number, percent, rate and rank per 100,000 population of persons with mental retardation as a major disabling condition by State from 1958 through 1963.[3]

Age

Because of the concerted effort made to reach the retarded who are in school, the mentally

[3] The mean rates for the total United States as shown on Table 1 are slightly lower than those illustrated in Figure d. This was primarily caused by the exclusion of the population of Alaska, Guam and the Virgin Islands.

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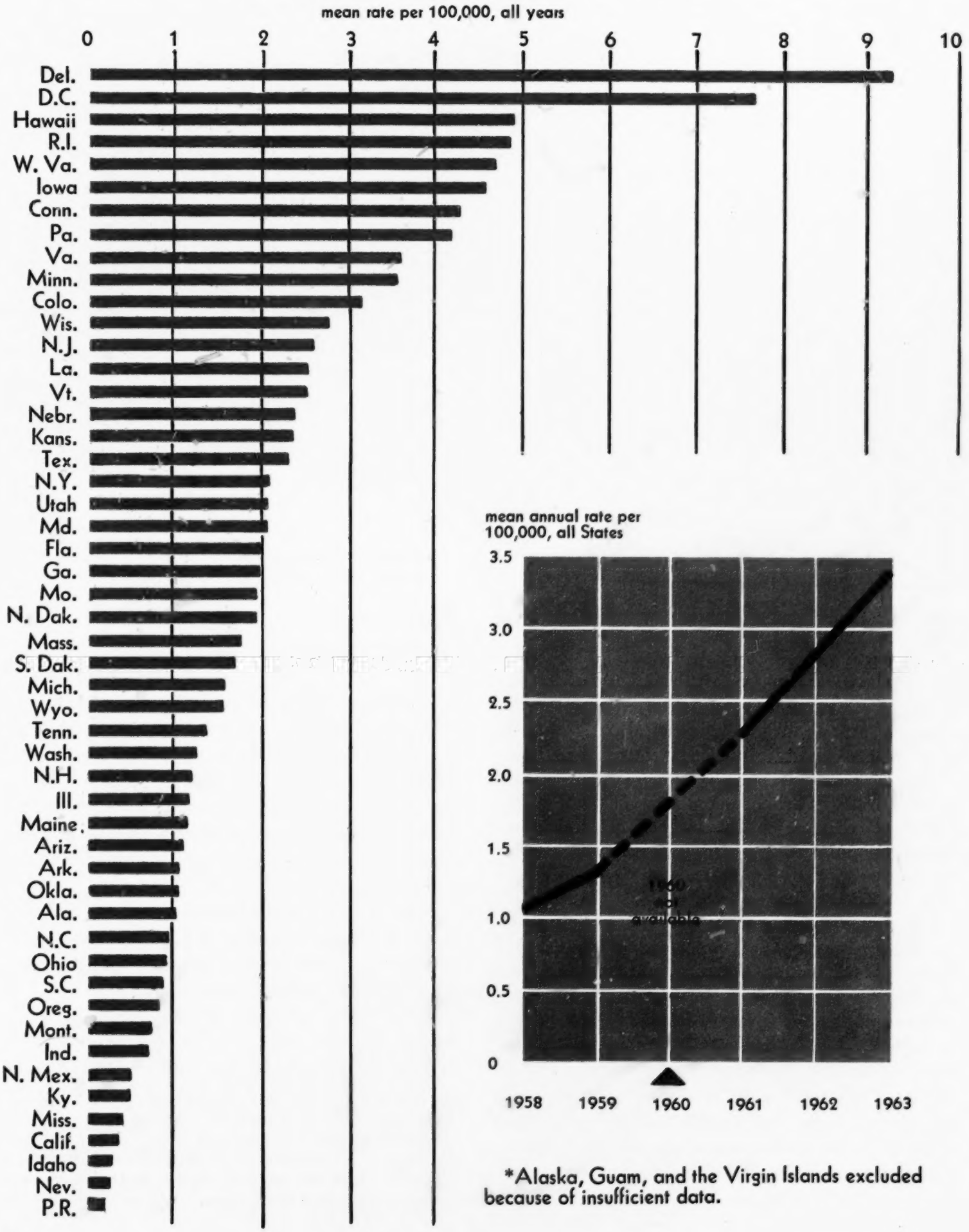
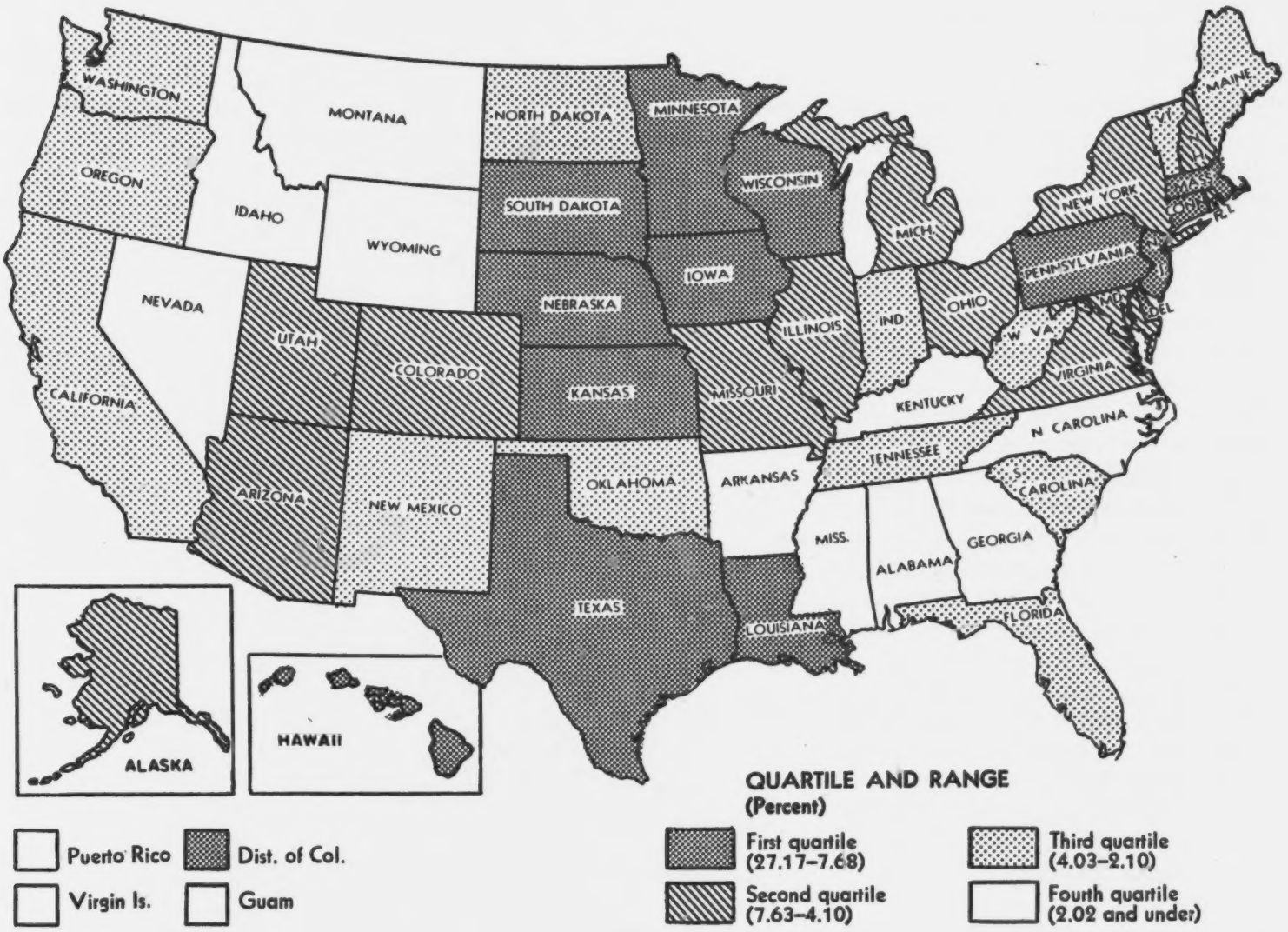
FIGURE D.—*Average rate of mentally retarded rehabilitants per 100,000 population for fiscal years 1958–59; 1961–63 by State* and by year for the United States*



*Alaska, Guam, and the Virgin Islands excluded because of insufficient data.

FIGURE E.—*Distribution by quartile of percentage of all State rehabilitants who were mentally retarded, fiscal year 1963*



retarded rehabilitants were significantly younger than those with other disabilities. Among the retarded nearly 70 percent were less that 20 years of age, in contrast to 17 percent for the nonretarded. When it is considered that the minimum age of eligibility for vocational rehabilitation service ranges between 14 and 16, this proportion is particularly noteworthy. The median age for the retarded in 1963 was 19 years old; for the nonretarded it was 35. Ninety-nine percent of the mentally retarded were less than 45 years old in comparison to 71 percent for the remaining handicapped groups.

The trend since 1958 suggests that the retarded population served by the State agencies is becoming younger. For example in 1958, 58 of every 100 of the major retarded were less than 20 years old; in 1963, 69 of every 100 were under 20 years of age.

Sex

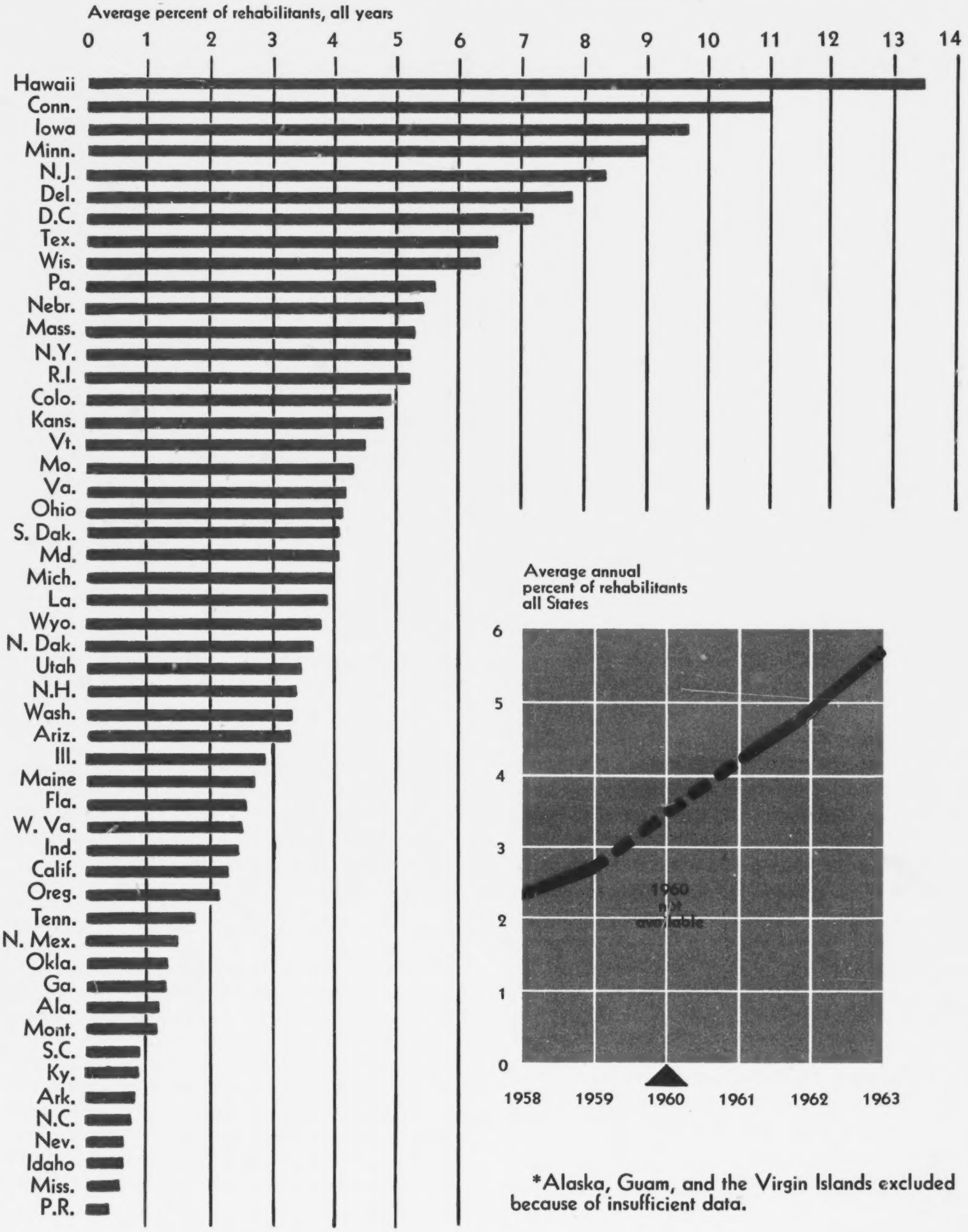
Sixty-eight percent of the retarded rehabilitants were male. This is significantly higher than the 61 percent reported for the nonretarded. In comparison to 1958, slightly more male retardates were rehabilitated, although the difference is not significant (68 percent versus 65 percent).

Race

For those States reporting race, the vast majority of the retarded rehabilitants were white. Eighty-seven percent of the retarded were white in comparison to 80 percent for the nonretarded. The trend since 1958 suggests, however, that the proportion of rehabilitated Negro retardates is increasing. In 1958, 7 of every 100 retardates rehabilitated were Negro; in 1963, 11 were Negro.

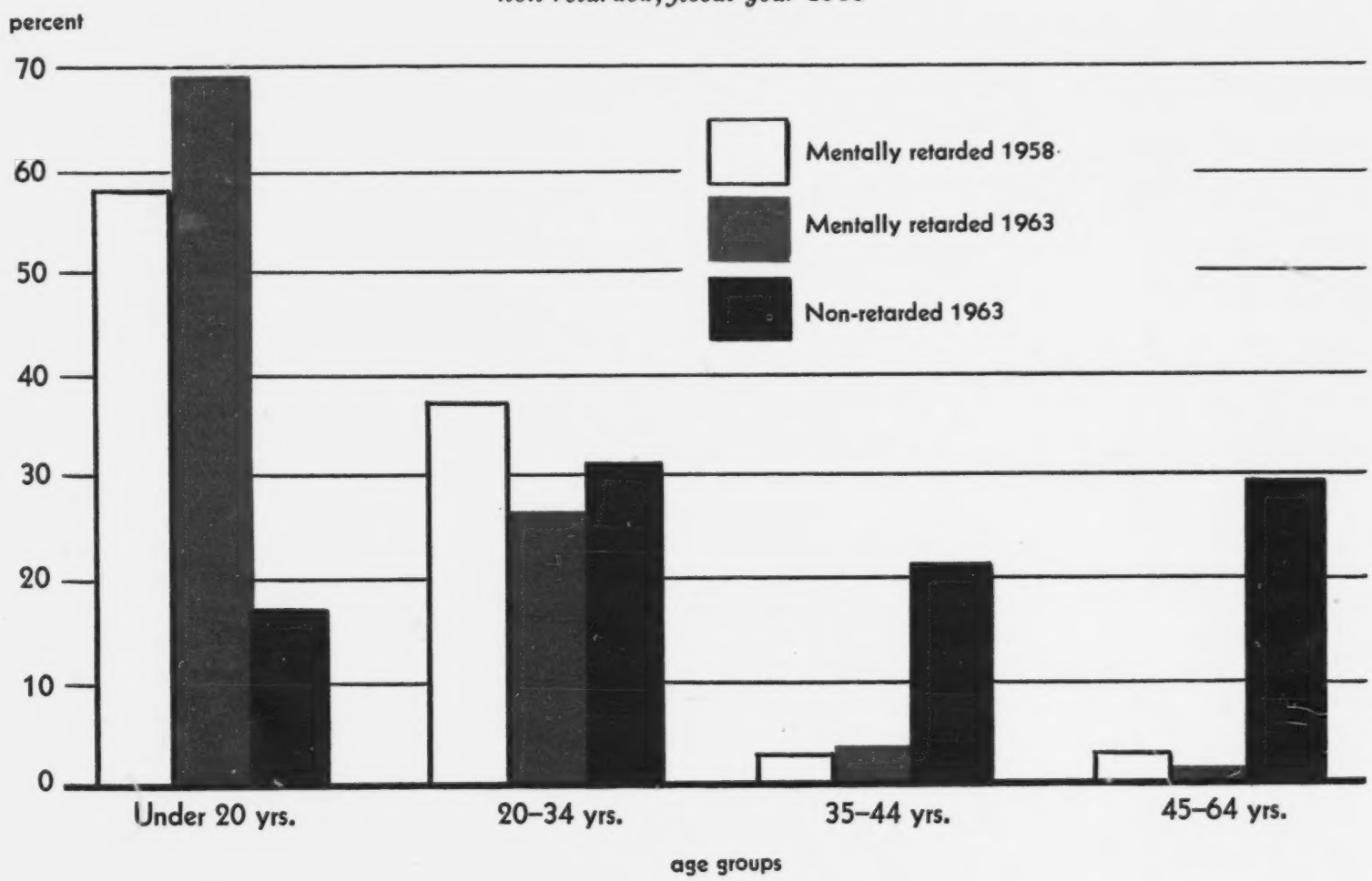
Table 2 presents the age, sex and race distribution for the mentally retarded and the nonretarded rehabilitants.

FIGURE F.—*Average percent of all rehabilitants who were mentally retarded, for fiscal years 1958–59; 1961–63 by State* and by year for the United States*



*Alaska, Guam, and the Virgin Islands excluded because of insufficient data.

FIGURE G.—*Age distribution of the mentally retarded rehabilitated, fiscal years 1958 and 1963 and the non-retarded, fiscal year 1963*



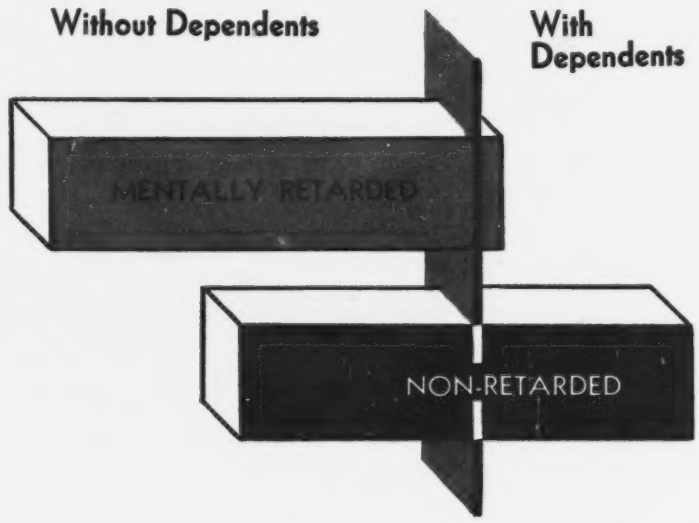
Dependency status

Nearly all of the retarded rehabilitants in 1963 were without dependents. Of the 5 percent with dependents, nearly all of them had less than four dependents. This experience is in sharp contrast to that noted for the nonretarded group where only about half (51 percent) had no dependents. Of those with dependents about one-third had four or more.

There was no observed change in the number of dependents of the retarded between 1958 and 1963.

Table 3 shows the distribution of the number of dependents for the mentally retarded and the nonretarded.

FIGURE H.—*Dependency status of the mentally retarded and the non-retarded rehabilitants, fiscal year 1963*



Mobility status

The mentally retarded were significantly more mobile than were the nonretarded. For example, at acceptance for service, 102 or 2 percent of the 5,909 retarded rehabilitants were incapable of independent mobility; at closure only 41 retardates retained this status. For the nonretardates 6 percent were incapable of independent mobility at acceptance and 2 percent remained so at closure.

Table 4 describes the mobility status for the retarded and the nonretarded, before and after receiving rehabilitation services in fiscal year 1963.

TABLE 1.—*Mentally retarded persons rehabilitated in fiscal years 1959, 1961–63 by State*

State	Number and percent rehabilitated, rate and rank per 100,000 population •																			
	1963				1962				1961				1959				1958			
	Number of rehabilitants	Percent of rehabilitants	Rate	Rank	Number of rehabilitants	Percent of rehabilitants	Rate	Rank	Number of rehabilitants	Percent of rehabilitants	Rate	Rank	Number of rehabilitants	Percent of rehabilitants	Rate	Rank	Number of rehabilitants	Percent of rehabilitants	Rate	Rank
Total	5,909	5.4	3.14	----	4,458	4.4	2.40	----	3,562	3.9	1.95	----	2,016	2.5	1.14	----	1,578	2.1	0.91	----
Alabama	63	2.0	1.88	34	45	1.5	1.36	36	33	1.2	1.01	37	14	.6	.44	41	10	.4	.32	40
Alaska	4	4.9	1.63	37	(b)	------	------	----	(b)	------	------	----	1	2.2	.47	39	1	1.9	.49	36
Arizona	23	4.9	1.52	41	20	4.6	1.44	34	16	3.4	1.21	34	11	2.3	.96	26	6	1.2	.53	35
Arkansas	36	1.3	1.97	33	18	.7	1.00	44	20	.8	1.12	35	9	.4	.51	37	14	.7	.79	25
California	84	3.1	.49	50	87	3.3	.53	49	62	2.5	.39	45	30	1.7	.21	45	12	.8	.09	50
Colorado	99	7.6	5.19	10	69	5.6	3.87	12	75	6.5	4.27	7	12	1.4	.70	31	26	3.4	1.55	15
Connecticut	136	13.6	5.24	8	144	14.9	5.51	4	126	13.5	4.95	5	62	6.3	2.68	5	66	6.9	2.93	4
Delaware	58	10.3	12.37	2	66	12.1	14.41	1	43	8.0	9.58	2	26	5.0	5.73	2	19	3.7	4.34	2
Dist. of Col	102	9.9	13.01	1	104	12.3	13.67	2	82	11.5	10.76	1	5	1.5	.61	34	2	.7	.24	43
Florida	149	3.2	2.73	24	119	2.8	2.28	27	86	2.3	1.72	26	64	2.1	1.44	19	70	2.6	1.71	14
Georgia	111	1.7	2.71	25	134	2.2	3.36	13	100	1.7	2.53	17	35	.6	.92	27	11	.2	.29	42
Guam	0	------	------	----	1	7.7	1.49	33	0	------	------	----	0	------	------	----	(b)	------	------	----
Hawaii	72	27.2	10.39	3	49	20.1	7.46	3	21	9.6	3.27	11	(b)	------	------	----	8	3.7	1.37	16
Idaho	3	.8	.43	51	1	.2	.15	52	2	.6	.30	47	1	.4	.15	50	2	1.0	.31	41
Illinois	240	5.7	2.37	28	137	3.5	1.34	37	101	2.6	1.00	38	42	1.1	.42	42	61	1.5	.63	31
Indiana	34	2.3	.72	48	32	2.2	.68	47	52	4.3	1.11	36	25	2.0	.55	36	16	1.4	.35	39
Iowa	178	12.2	6.41	6	127	9.5	4.57	8	111	8.7	4.02	8	148	12.3	5.24	3	68	5.9	2.43	7
Kansas	94	8.5	4.24	16	69	5.9	3.14	15	56	5.4	2.57	15	26	2.7	1.23	22	12	1.6	.56	34
Kentucky	27	1.4	.88	45	23	1.3	.75	45	13	.9	.43	44	8	.6	.26	43	0	------	------	----
Louisiana	171	7.7	5.14	11	94	4.4	2.83	20	56	2.6	1.71	27	56	3.0	1.80	13	32	1.8	1.04	20
Maine	16	3.9	1.60	38	13	3.0	1.31	38	12	2.7	1.23	33	11	2.9	1.16	23	4	1.3	.42	37
Maryland	98	5.7	3.07	20	81	4.8	2.54	24	72	4.8	2.31	18	46	3.4	1.56	16	18	1.5	.62	32
Massachusetts	147	7.7	2.85	22	127	7.3	2.43	25	108	6.1	2.09	20	33	2.3	.68	32	34	3.1	.70	29
Michigan	174	5.2	2.18	30	131	4.0	1.65	31	145	4.7	1.85	23	80	2.9	1.02	24	98	3.2	1.26	17
Minnesota	151	9.6	4.35	14	141	9.6	4.06	11	150	10.6	4.38	6	80	6.4	2.37	8	90	8.9	2.71	5
Mississippi	21	1.2	.93	44	14	.8	.63	48	4	.2	.18	50	4	.3	.18	46	2	.2	.09	48
Missouri	113	4.9	2.60	26	105	5.0	2.40	26	92	5.2	2.12	19	65	3.9	1.52	18	37	2.6	.87	21
Montana	7	1.3	.99	43	5	1.0	.73	46	3	.7	.44	43	5	1.2	.73	30	5	1.2	.75	28
Nebraska	49	8.2	3.30	19	45	6.5	3.14	16	28	4.4	1.98	22	25	3.6	1.72	14	26	4.4	1.79	12
Nevada	2	1.5	.60	49	1	.7	.33	50	1	.8	.35	46	0	------	------	----	0	------	------	----
New Hampshire	18	7.6	2.85	23	7	3.3	1.13	42	10	4.8	1.64	28	1	.6	.17	47	1	.6	.17	44
New Jersey	267	11.2	4.28	15	203	10.0	3.25	14	161	9.6	2.64	12	108	7.1	1.88	11	46	4.0	.82	24
New Mexico	8	2.4	.78	46	2	.6	.20	51	2	.6	.21	49	4	1.3	.48	38	7	2.3	.84	22
New York	531	7.0	3.05	21	446	6.1	2.62	23	339	5.0	2.01	21	231	4.2	1.42	20	183	3.9	1.15	19
North Carolina	111	1.7	2.35	29	93	1.5	2.02	30	12	.2	.26	48	7	.1	.15	49	5	.1	.11	47
North Dakota	10	3.0	1.56	40	19	5.1	2.97	19	9	2.5	1.42	31	15	4.9	2.31	9	8	2.8	1.24	18

Ohio	179	6.5	1.77	36	122	4.7	1.24	41	88	4.2	.90	39	42	2.6	.45	40	36	2.6	.39	38
Oklahoma	53	2.5	2.17	31	33	1.7	1.40	35	11	.6	.47	42	13	.8	.57	35	14	.9	.61	33
Oregon	26	3.6	1.39	42	23	3.2	1.28	40	10	1.3	.56	41	4	.6	.23	44	14	2.0	.79	26
Pennsylvania	889	8.2	7.81	4	599	6.4	5.22	6	424	6.6	3.74	9	247	4.0	2.23	10	197	3.0	1.78	13
Puerto Rico	18	1.2	.73	47	2	.2	.09	53	3	.3	.13	51	0	------	------	----	2	.2	.09	49
Rhode Island	45	4.1	5.20	9	36	3.9	4.15	10	53	6.2	6.18	3	44	6.5	5.03	4	31	5.4	3.60	3
South Carolina	60	2.1	2.46	27	25	1.0	1.04	43	19	.9	.79	40	4	.3	.17	48	0	------	------	----
South Dakota	26	8.4	3.61	17	14	4.6	2.03	29	11	4.0	1.61	29	7	2.7	1.00	25	1	.5	.14	46
Tennessee	72	2.4	1.98	32	47	1.6	1.30	39	49	1.8	1.37	32	48	1.9	1.38	21	26	1.1	.75	27
Texas	506	13.0	5.00	12	298	9.0	3.04	18	250	8.1	2.60	13	62	2.4	.66	33	14	.6	.15	45
Utah	32	5.2	3.31	18	24	4.1	2.62	22	23	4.2	2.57	16	7	1.6	.81	29	7	2.0	.82	23
Vermont	7	3.7	1.79	35	17	7.0	4.30	9	7	3.6	1.79	25	9	3.9	2.42	7	8	4.4	2.13	9
Virgin Islands	0	------	------	----	1	3.2	3.12	17	(b)	------	------	----	3	13.0	12.50	1	2	18.2	8.33	1
Virginia	219	5.7	5.24	7	186	5.1	4.58	7	145	4.3	3.65	10	104	3.3	2.64	6	70	2.5	1.84	11
Washington	47	4.0	1.56	39	44	3.8	1.52	32	43	4.1	1.50	30	25	2.5	.90	28	19	2.2	.70	30
West Virginia	137	3.6	7.73	5	99	2.7	5.35	5	114	3.3	6.14	4	30	1.1	1.52	17	50	2.1	2.53	6
Wisconsin	185	8.3	4.52	13	109	5.8	2.71	21	103	6.5	2.60	14	72	5.4	1.83	12	80	5.8	2.07	10
Wyoming	1	.9	.27	52	7	5.9	2.07	28	6	5.5	1.81	24	5	3.0	1.56	15	7	3.8	2.22	8

[a] Estimate of total population as of July 1, Bureau of the Census: Series P-25, U.S. Dept. of Commerce, Washington, D.C.
[b] Data not available.

TABLE 2.—*Age, sex and race of the mentally retarded rehabilitated, fiscal years 1958 and 1963 and the nonretarded, fiscal year 1963*

Characteristic	Mentally retarded				Nonretarded
	Fiscal year 1963		Fiscal year 1958		Fiscal year 1963
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Total rehabilitants	5,909	-----	1,578	-----	-----
AGE					
Number reporting	5,907	100.0	1,578	100.0	100.0
Under 45 years	5,833	98.7	1,539	97.6	70.5
Less than 20 years	4,089	69.1	915	58.0	17.4
20–34 years	1,546	26.2	580	36.8	31.5
35–44 years	198	3.4	44	2.8	21.6
45–64 years	72	1.3	37	2.3	27.7
45–54 years	63	1.1	NA	-----	18.5
55–64 years	9	.2	NA	-----	9.2
65 and over	2	(*)	2	.1	1.8
Not reporting	2	-----	0	-----	-----
Median age (years)	19	-----	19	-----	35
SEX					
Number reporting	5,909	100.0	1,578	100.0	100.0
Male	3,998	67.7	1,022	64.8	61.1
Female	1,911	32.3	556	35.2	38.9
Not reporting	0	-----	0	-----	-----
RACE					
Number reporting	4,196	100.0	1,349	100.0	100.0
White	3,631	86.5	1,243	92.1	80.2
Negro	475	11.3	97	7.2	18.8
Other	90	2.2	9	.7	1.0
Not reporting [a]	1,713	-----	229	-----	-----

[a] Certain States do not report race.
*Less than 0.05 percent.

Sources of referral

Reflecting the active relationship between vocational rehabilitation agencies and educational agencies, the major source of referral for rehabilitants with mental retardation was schools. Half the retarded rehabilitants were referred from this source. In sharp contrast, only 10 percent of the nonretarded group were referred from schools.

TABLE 3.—*Number of dependents at acceptance of the mentally retarded rehabilitated, fiscal years 1958 and 1963, and the nonretarded, fiscal year 1963*

Number of dependents	Mentally retarded				Nonretarded
	Fiscal year 1963		Fiscal year 1958		Fiscal year 1963
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Total rehabilitants	5,909	-----	1,578	-----	-----
Number reporting	5,903	100.0	1,576	100.0	100.0
None	5,611	95.1	1,501	95.3	50.9
1–3	238	4.0	65	4.1	32.4
4 or more	54	.9	10	.6	16.7
Not reporting	6	-----	2	-----	-----

TABLE 4.—*Mobility status of the mentally retarded rehabilitated and the nonretarded, fiscal year 1963* [a]

Mobility status	Mentally retarded		Nonretarded
	Number	Percent	Percent
Total rehabilitants	5,909	-------	------
At acceptance reporting	5,905	100.0	100.0
Housebound	20	.3	2.4
Capable of activity outside home	5,885	99.7	97.6
With help of other person	82	1.4	3.2
Without help of other person	5,803	98.3	94.4
Not reporting	4	-------	------
At closure reporting	5,906	100.0	100.0
Housebound	2	(*)	.4
Capable of activity outside home	5,904	100.0	99.6
With help of other person	39	.7	1.7
Without help of other person	5,865	99.3	97.9
Not reporting	3	-------	------

[a] Data not available for fiscal year 1958.
*Less than 0.05 percent.

Relatively few retardates were referred from such traditional sources of clients as physicians (2 percent for the retarded group and 16 percent for the nonretarded), hospitals and sanatoriums (5 percent versus 14 percent), and the client himself (4 percent versus 12 percent).

Compared to 1958, significantly more retardates were referred from schools (50 percent in 1963 versus 39 percent in 1958) and other health agencies (7 percent versus 5 percent). In contrast, significantly fewer retardates are being referred from such sources as hospitals (5 percent in 1963 versus 8 percent in 1958), welfare agencies (10 percent versus 14 percent), and State employment services (5 percent versus 10 percent). Table 5 indicates the distribution of referral sources for the retarded and the nonretarded rehabilitants.

Primary source of support

Over three-quarters of the rehabilitants with mental retardation were dependent on their families and friends for subsistence before receiving rehabilitation services. Two other large sources of support were public institutions and public assistance agencies.

The retarded group differed significantly from the nonretarded in each important primary source of support. In comparison to the nonretarded rehabilitants, the two most important sources were family and friends (76 percent for the retarded and 52 percent for the nonretarded) and public

FIGURE I.—*Referral sources of the mentally retarded rehabilitants, fiscal years 1958 and 1963 and the non-retarded, fiscal year 1963*

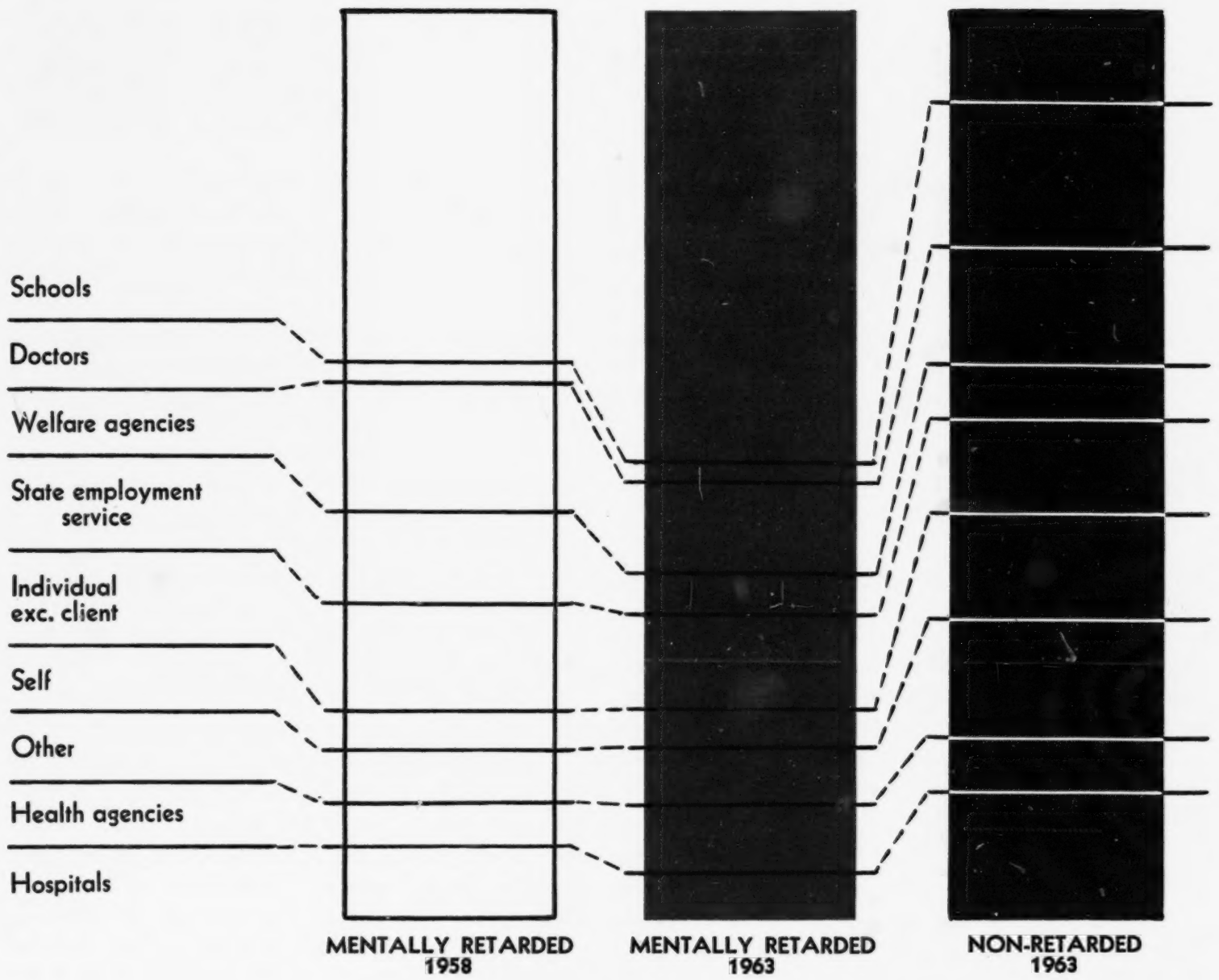


TABLE 5.—*Referral source of the mentally retarded rehabilitated in fiscal years 1958 and 1963, and the nonretarded, fiscal year 1963*

Referral source	Mentally retarded				Nonretarded
	Fiscal year 1963		Fiscal year 1958		Fiscal year 1963
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Total rehabilitants	5, 909	------	1, 578	------	------
Number reporting	5, 906	100. 0	1, 575	100. 0	100. 0
Educational institutions	2, 947	49. 8	606	38. 5	10. 3
Hospitals and sanatoriums	319	5. 4	133	8. 4	13. 9
Other health agencies (public and private including rehabilitation centers)	418	7. 1	74	4. 7	6. 0
Physicians, N.E.C	87	1. 5	37	2. 3	16. 3
Bureau of old-age and survivors' insurance	74	1. 3	3	. 2	3. 0
Workmen's compensation agencies	3	. 1	3	. 2	1. 6
Welfare agencies (public and private)	580	9. 8	214	13. 6	12. 6
State employment services	307	5. 2	151	9. 6	6. 2
Artificial appliance company	3	. 1	1	. 1	2. 8
Individual, except client himself	599	10. 1	193	12. 3	9. 5
Self-referred persons, N.E.C	243	4. 1	65	4. 1	12. 0
Other source	326	5. 5	95	6. 0	5. 8
Not reporting	3	------	3	------	------

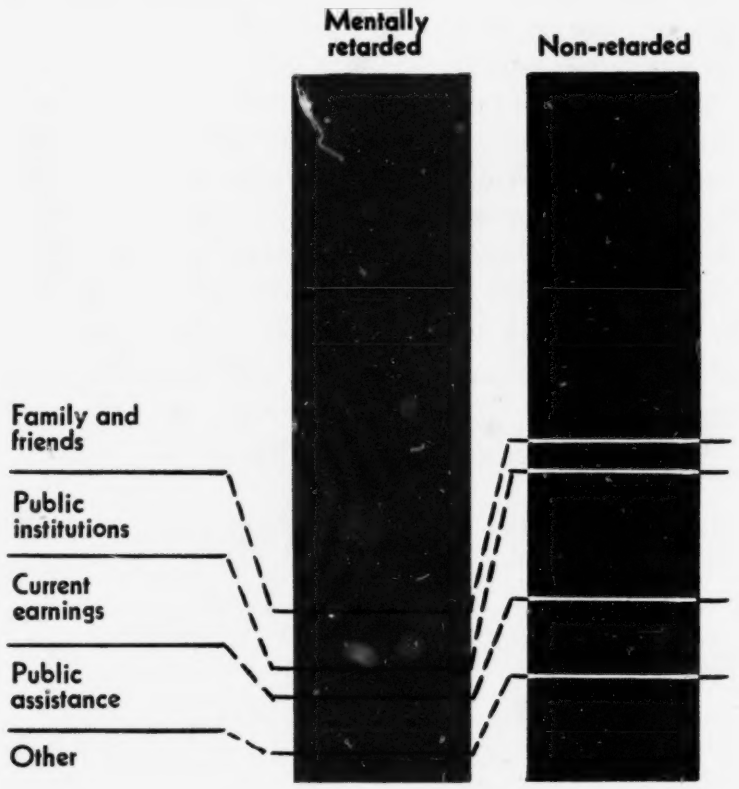
institutions (8 percent versus 4 percent). Important sources which were observed less frequently for the retarded were current earnings (4 percent versus 18 percent), public assistance (8 percent versus 11 percent), and unemployment and other benefits (1 percent versus 7 percent).

Table 6 indicates the primary source of support for the mentally retarded and the nonretarded rehabilitants for 1963.

Public assistance status

In 1963, 9 percent of the retarded rehabilitants were receiving some public assistance at acceptance although in a few cases it was not the primary source of support. This proportion is significantly below the 14 percent for the nonretarded group. At closure, 1 percent of the retarded remained on public assistance in contrast to 5 percent for other rehabilitants.

FIGURE J.—*Primary source of support for the mentally retarded rehabilitants and the nonretarded, fiscal year 1963*



Although the number of recipients was small, the returns from rehabilitation were dramatic. At acceptance, the 500 retarded recipients were receiving an estimated $400,000 annually in public assistance. At closure only 84 (an 83 percent reduction) were receiving public assistance at a cost in public funds of $67,000 a year—a saving of over $300,000.

Table 7 includes the status of the recipients, the source and the amount of public assistance payments for the mentally retarded and the nonretarded.

Earnings

Ninety-two percent of the retarded rehabilitants had no earnings at acceptance. Of the 8 percent who were wage earners, half were earning less than $10 per week. In contrast, 72 percent of the nonretarded group had no earnings at acceptance and 18 percent were making less than $10 per week.

In comparison to this experience, the retarded seemed to be more successful in achieving an earn-

TABLE 6.—*Primary source of support of the mentally retarded rehabilitated and the nonretarded, fiscal year 1963*[a]

Primary source of support [b]	Mentally retarded		Nonretarded
	Number	Percent	Percent
Total rehabilitants	5,909		
Number reporting	5,896	100.0	100.0
Current earnings	228	3.9	18.0
Family and friends	4,504	76.2	51.6
Private relief agency	70	1.2	.5
Public assistance	463	7.9	11.4
Partly from Federal funds	299	5.1	8.8
Without Federal funds	164	2.8	2.6
Public institution—tax supported	498	8.4	4.1
Workmen's compensation	9	.2	2.7
OASI disability benefits	48	.8	1.7
Other benefits including unemployment benefits	51	.9	6.7
Annuity or other nondisability insurance benefits	3	.1	.3
Disability or sickness benefits (private insurance); savings; other sources	22	.4	3.0
Not reporting	13		

[a] Comparable data not available for fiscal year 1958.
[b] Primary source of support is client's largest single source, not necessarily his sole source.

ing status after rehabilitation than were the nonretarded group, even though the dollar amount was significantly less. Only 7 percent of the retarded had no earnings at closure, as compared to 17 percent for the nonretarded. ,However, as to magnitude of earnings, the retarded were generally lower paid. For example, only 7 percent were making $60 or more per week in comparison to 30 percent for the nonretarded. The mean wage of the retardate at closure was $35 per week; for the nonretarded it was $43.

Though the comparison of earning distributions between 1963 and 1958 does show differences, some of them significant, it is likely that most of these differences can be ascribed to changes in economic level since 1958.

Table 8 includes a distribution of earnings for the mentally retarded and all other rehabilitants both at acceptance and at closure.

TABLE 7.—*Public assistance recipients among the mentally retarted and the nonretarded rehabilitated, fiscal year 1963*[a]

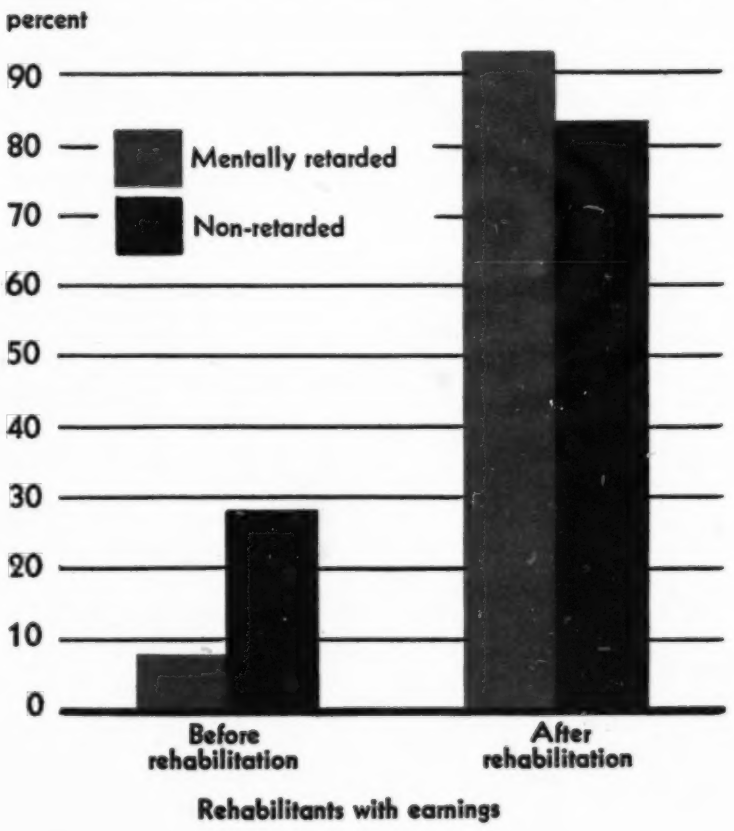
Public assistance	Mentally retarded		Nonretarded
	Number	Percent	Percent
Total rehabilitants	5,909		
Number reporting at acceptance	5,908	100.0	100.0
Clients receiving public assistance	500	8.5	13.5
From programs with Federal funds	333	5.6	10.3
From programs without Federal funds	163	2.8	3.0
From both kinds of programs	4	.1	.2
Clients not receiving public assistance	5,408	91.5	86.5
Clients not reported as to receiving public assistance	1		
Aggregate monthly amount of public assistance	$35,236		
Number reporting at closure	5,909	100.0	100.0
Clients receiving public assistance	84	1.4	5.3
From programs with Federal funds	65	1.1	4.6
From programs without Federal funds	17	.3	.6
From both kinds of programs	2	(*)	.1
Clients not receiving public assistance	5,825	98.6	94.7
Clients not reported as to receiving public assistance	0		
Aggregate monthly amount of public assistance	$5,546		

[a] Comparable data not available for fiscal year 1958.
*Less than 0.05 percent.

Work status

It was noted in the preceding section on earnings, that the majority of retardates were not wage earners before receiving rehabilitation services, yet were relatively successful as earners at closure. This experience is reinforced dramatically by the report of work status.

FIGURE K.—*Earning experience of the mentally retarded and the non-retarded rehabilitants before and after vocational rehabilitation, fiscal year 1963*



Among the retarded rehabilitants, 93 percent were not working prior to rehabilitation. Of the relatively few who were working, only 4 percent were employed in the competitive labor market. This experience is in sharp contrast to the nonretarded, where 72 percent were unemployed at acceptance and 17 percent were competitively employed.

At closure, the work status of the retarded group was in some respects an improvement over that of the nonretarded. Seventy-eight percent of the retarded were employed in the competitive labor market, in comparison to 75 percent for the nonretarded. However, significantly more of the retarded were closed in sheltered workshops (15 percent versus 3 percent), and fewer were closed as self-employed (1 percent versus 7 percent). Because of the youth of the retarded rehabilitant and the high proportion of males (table 2) significantly fewer were closed as homemakers than were the nonretarded (6 percent versus 15 percent).

Comparative data from 1958 for the retarded group for several of the work status categories are not available. An inspection of the limited data that are available, however, suggests that no significant differences were obtained in the proportion of retarded not working at acceptance, or in the proportion of homemakers at closure. On the other hand, more of the retarded were closed in sheltered workshops in 1963 than in 1958 (15 percent versus 12 percent).

TABLE 8.—*Weekly earnings at acceptance and at closure of the mentally retarded rehabilitated in fiscal years 1958 and 1963, and the nonretarded in fiscal year 1963*

Weekly earnings	Mentally retarded				Non-retarded
	Fiscal year 1963		Fiscal year 1958		Fiscal year 1963
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
At acceptance					
Total rehabilitants	5,909	-----	1,578	-----	-----
Number reporting	5,900	100.0	1,577	100.0	100.0
No earnings	5,412	91.7	1,515	96.0	71.8
Less than $10	245	4.2	9	.6	5.1
$10–$19	108	1.8	19	1.2	6.3
$20–$39	105	1.8	29	1.8	8.6
$40–$59	21	.4	4	.3	4.5
$60–$79	7	.1	1	.1	2.3
$80 and over	2	(*)	0	-----	1.4
Not reporting	9	-----	1	-----	-----
At closure					
Total rehabilitants	5,909	-----	1,578	-----	-----
Number reporting	5,897	100.0	1,578	100.0	100.0
No earnings	401	6.8	105	6.7	17.3
Less than $10	328	5.6	99	6.3	.8
$10–$19	664	11.3	176	11.2	6.1
$20–$39	1,929	32.7	679	42.9	19.3
$40–$59	2,153	36.4	439	27.8	26.5
$60–$79	345	5.9	66	4.2	16.7
$80 and over	77	1.3	14	.9	13.3
Not reporting	12	-----	0	-----	-----

*Less than 0.05 percent.

Occupation at closure

As indicated in the preceding table on work status, most of the retarded were working after receiving vocational rehabilitation services. However, the pattern of occupations entered into by the group was completely different from that of

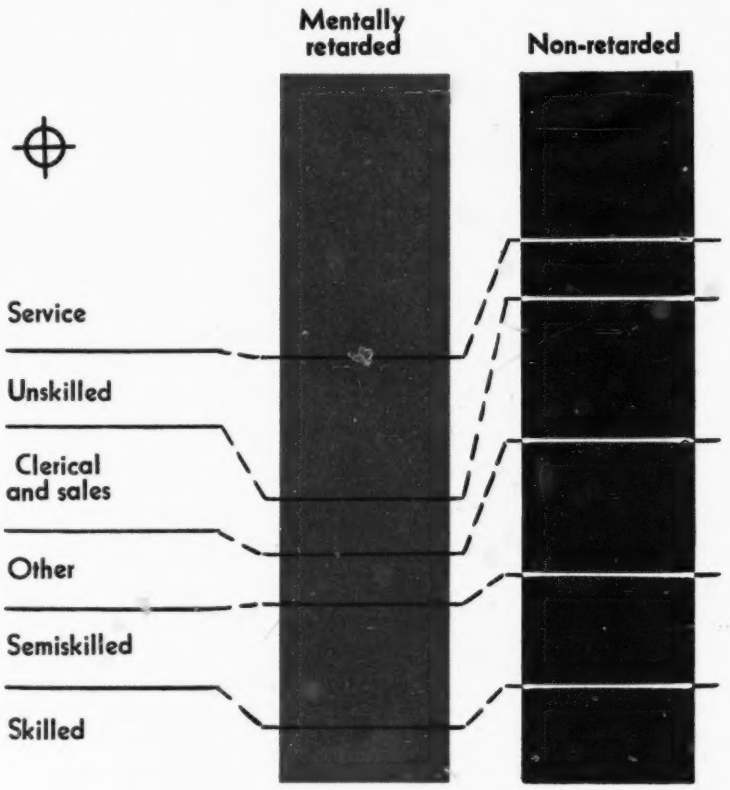
TABLE 9.—*Work status at acceptance and at closure of the mentally retarded rehabilitated, fiscal years 1958 and 1963, and the nonretarded in fiscal year 1963*

Work status	Mentally retarded				Nonretarded
	Fiscal year 1963		Fiscal year 1958		Fiscal year 1963
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Total rehabilitants	5, 909	-----	1, 578	-----	-----
Total reporting at acceptance	5, 907	100. 0	-----	-----	100. 0
Total reporting at closure	5, 909	100. 0	1, 578	100. 0	100. 0
Wage or salaried workers:					
Competitive labor market:					
At acceptance	216	3. 7	(a)	-----	16. 5
At closure	4, 589	77. 7	1, 237	78. 3	74. 7
Sheltered workshops:					
At acceptance	56	. 9	(a)	-----	. 5
At closure	878	14. 9	195	12. 4	2. 6
State-agency-managed business enterprises:					
At acceptance	1	(*)	(a)	-----	. 1
At closure	8	. 1	0	-----	. 6
Self-employed:					
At acceptance	4	. 1	(a)	-----	2. 5
At closure	73	1. 2	42	2. 7	6. 9
Homemakers and unpaid family workers:					
At acceptance	117	2. 0	(a)	-----	8. 6
At closure	361	6. 1	104	6. 6	15. 2
Not working at acceptance:					
Students	1, 574	26. 6	(a)	-----	9. 8
Others	3, 939	66. 7	(a)	-----	62. 0
Not reporting at acceptance	2	-----	(a)	-----	-----
Not reporting at closure	0	-----	0	-----	-----

(a) Data not available.
(*) Less than 0.05 percent.

the nonretarded. The most prevalent placement opportunities for the retarded occurred in such classifications as service (40 percent), unskilled (20 percent), and semiskilled (17 percent). For the retarded rehabilitants, significantly fewer were placed in professional (0.2 percent versus 5 percent), semiprofessional (0.4 percent versus 5 percent), clerical and sales (8 percent versus 20 percent), and skilled (8 percent versus 14 percent), than the nonretarded. It is interesting to note that several mentally retarded clients were reported closed in professional occupations. As indicated previously, the proportion of retardates closed in sheltered workshops was significantly greater than the proportion of nonretarded closed in workshops (15 percent versus 3 percent).

FIGURE L.—*Most frequent types of closure occupations of the mentally retarded and the non-retarded rehabilitants, fiscal year 1963*



Placement patterns for the retarded since 1958 have changed very little. The only apparent differences that occurred were that more of the retarded are currently being closed in sheltered workshops (15 percent versus 12 percent) and more are placed as skilled workers (8 percent versus 4 percent). In contrast, proportionately fewer retardates were placed as clerks and sales personnel than were so placed in 1958.

Table 10 presents the occupation distribution for the two groups of rehabilitants.

Applicant status for Old-Age and Survivors' Disability Insurance (OASDI) benefits

The vast majority of the mentally retarded were not applicants for OASDI benefits. Only four of every 100 rehabilitants with mental retardation were applicants for OASDI benefits. This is significantly less than the 8 applicants per 100 among the nonretarded rehabilitants. However, for both groups, about one-third were allowed benefits. Significantly fewer rehabilitants among

TABLE 10.—*Type of occupation at closure of the mentally retarded rehabilitated, fiscal years 1958 and 1963, and the nonretarded, fiscal year 1963*

Type of occupation	Mentally retarded				Nonretarded
	Fiscal year 1963		Fiscal year 1958		Fiscal year 1963
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Total rehabilitants	5, 909	100. 0	1, 578	100. 0	100. 0
Work in sheltered workshops	878	14. 9	195	12. 4	2. 6
Homemakers and unpaid family workers	361	6. 1	104	6. 6	15. 1
Occupations	4, 670	79. 0	1, 279	81. 0	82. 3
Not reporting	0	-----	0	-----	-----
Occupations	4, 670	100. 0	1, 279	100. 0	100. 0
Professional	10	. 2	0	0	5. 4
Semiprofessional, managerial and official	19	. 4	0	0	5. 4
Clerical and sales	372	8. 0	128	10. 0	19. 9
Service	1, 869	40. 1	521	40. 7	23. 6
Agriculture	329	7. 0	110	8. 6	8. 5
Skilled	351	7. 5	55	4. 3	14. 4
Semiskilled	781	16. 7	203	15. 9	14. 8
Unskilled	939	20. 1	262	20. 5	8. 0

the retarded group were denied benefits than among the nonretarded (33 percent versus 41 percent).

Significantly more of the OASDI retarded applicants were less than 45 years old (96 percent), as compared to the nonretarded (48 percent).

Table 11 indicates the OASDI application status of the retarded and nonretarded rehabilitants in 1963.

Types of services received and cost of these services

Costs specified here exclude costs of counseling, guidance, placement, and administration.

Nearly 93 percent of the rehabilitants with retardation received services with cost to the agency. Of the eight delineated types of services reported, the two most costly and frequently used were diagnostic procedures and training. The latter service alone, accounted for nearly 60 percent of the funds spent directly for the retarded.

In terms of proportion of clients who received specified types of services, the mentally retarded group significantly exceeded the nonretarded group in the areas of: diagnostic procedures (94 percent for the retarded and 88 percent for the

TABLE 11.—*Status of OASI disability insurance applications of the mentally retarded and the nonretarded rehabilitated, subdivided by age, fiscal year 1963* [a]

Application status and age	Mentally retarded		Nonretarded
	Number	Percent	Percent
Total rehabilitants	5, 909	-------	------
Number reporting	5, 907	100. 0	100. 0
OASI applicants	211	3. 6	8. 3
Non-OASI applicants	5, 696	96. 4	91. 7
Application status: [b] All applicants	211	100. 0	100. 0
Applicants allowed OASI benefits	79	37. 4	32. 3
Applicants denied OASI benefits	70	33. 2	40. 6
Application in process	15	7. 1	11. 4
Applicant status unknown	47	22. 3	15. 7
Age of applicants: All applicants	211	100. 0	100. 0
44 years and under	203	96. 2	47. 8
45 years and over	8	3. 8	52. 2
Age by OASI status:			
Age 44 years and under	203	100. 0	100. 0
Applicants allowed OASI benefits	77	37. 9	26. 3
Applicants denied OASI benefits	66	32. 5	40. 8
Application in process	14	6. 9	11. 9
Applicant status unknown	46	22. 7	21. 0
Age 45 years and over	8	100. 0	100. 0
Applicants allowed OASI benefits	2	25. 0	37. 8
Applicants denied OASI benefits	4	50. 0	40. 4
Application in process	1	12. 5	11. 0
Applicant status unknown	1	12. 5	10. 8
Not reporting	2	-------	------

[a] Data not available for fiscal year 1958.

[b] Allowed means rehabilitants were found to be under disability and were qualified to receive benefits. Denied means rehabilitants were not found to be under disability and were not qualified to receive benefits.

nonretarded), and maintenance and transportation (26 percent versus 23 percent). On the other hand, significantly fewer of the retarded required surgery and treatment (6 percent versus 35 percent), prosthetic appliances (4 percent versus 23 percent), hospitalization (1 percent versus 23 percent), and tools and equipment (2 percent versus 5 percent).

The highest proportion of funds allocated to rehabilitating both the retarded and the nonretarded was for training and materials (59 percent and 35 percent, respectively).

The overall average direct cost to rehabilitate a client with mental retardation was $453; the average cost for the nonretardate was $480. The average cost for hospitalization for the nonretarded was $264, for the retarded, $192. The cost of prosthetic appliances was $173 versus $61. Surgery and treatment was $166 versus $107. On the other hand the average costs for the retarded were significantly higher than the nonretarded for diagnostic procedures, $88 versus $41.

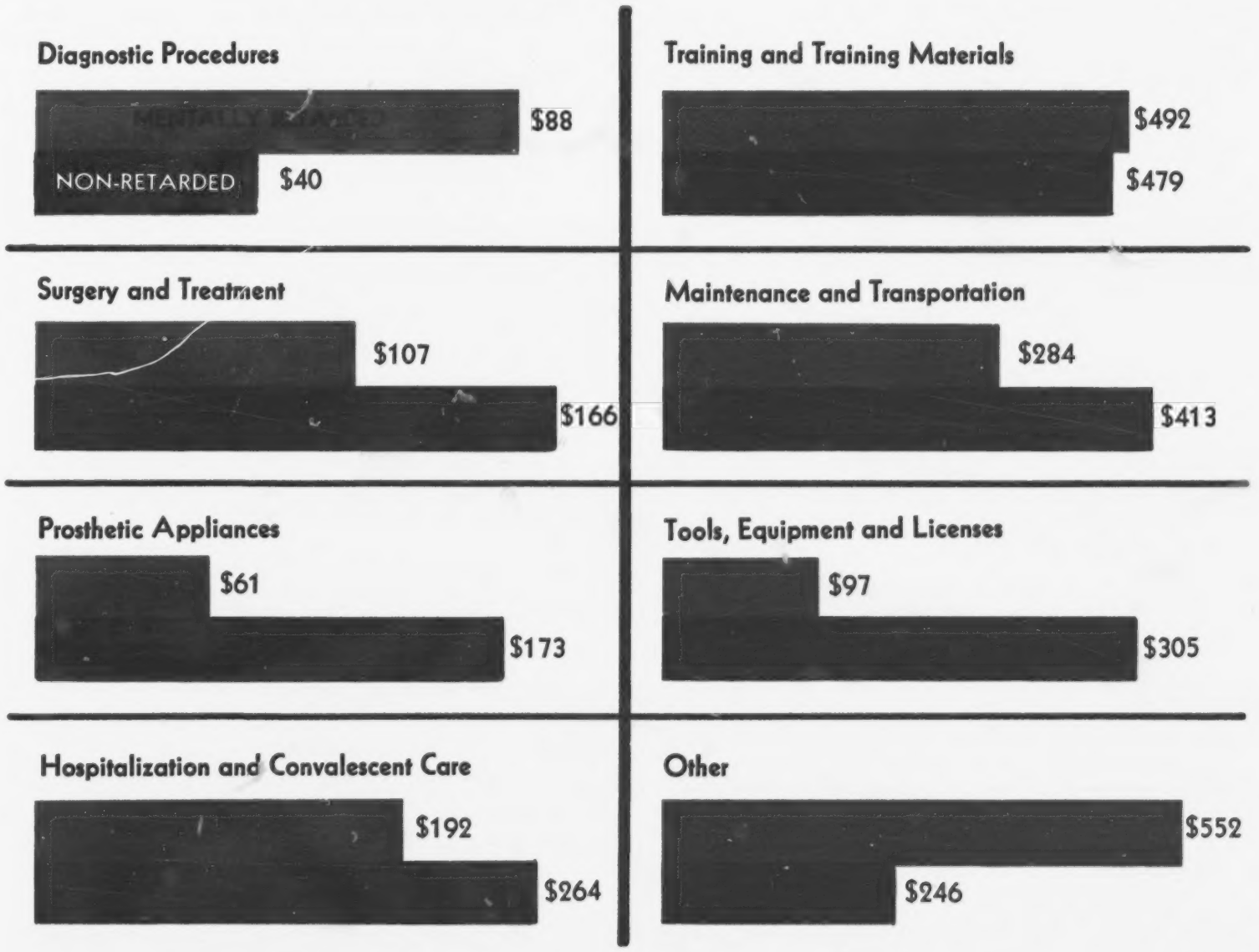
Table 12 presents the specified types of service received and the cost of each for the mentally retarded and all other disability groups for 1963.

Length of time required to rehabilitate a client

The retarded client required more time to rehabilitate than did the nonretarded client.

The median time from the point of referral to acceptance was 2.7 months for the mentally retarded and 2.0 months for the nonretarded. The median period from acceptance to closure was 12.1 months for the retarded and 10.8 months for

FIGURE M.—*Average cost* of services for the mentally retarded and the non-retarded rehabilitants, fiscal year 1963*



*Cost means only cost to State vocational rehabilitation agencies and excludes cost of administration, guidance, counseling and placement.

TABLE 12.—*Specified types of services received and cost of these services excluding administration, guidance, counseling and placement for the mentally retarded and the nonretarded rehabilitated, fiscal year 1963* [1]

Types of services	Mentally retarded		Nonretarded
	Number	Percent [2]	Percent [2]
Total rehabilitants	5,909	-------	------
Total with cost [3] to agency [4]	5,477	-------	------
Total cost to VR agency (dollars)	2,481,568	100.0	100.0
Diagnostic procedures:			
With cost	5,142	93.9	88.3
Cost (dollars)	450,105	18.1	7.5
Average cost per client	$88	-------	$41
Surgery and treatment:			
With cost	333	6.1	35.1
Cost (dollars)	35,666	1.4	12.1
Average cost per client	$107	-------	$166
Prosthetic appliances:			
With cost	198	3.6	23.4
Cost (dollars)	12,060	.5	8.4
Average cost per client	$61	-------	$173
Hospitalization and convalescent care:			
With cost	53	1.0	23.2
Cost (dollars)	10,165	.4	12.8
Average cost per client	$192	-------	$264
Training and training materials:			
With cost	2,947	53.8	35.4
Cost (dollars)	1,450,332	58.5	35.3
Average cost per client	$492	-------	$479
Maintenance and transportation:			
With cost	1,421	25.9	23.2
Cost (dollars)	402,914	16.2	19.9
Average cost per client	$284	-------	$413
Tools, equipment and licenses:			
With cost	114	2.1	5.1
Cost (dollars)	11,042	.4	3.3
Average cost per client	$97	-------	$305
Other:			
With cost	198	3.6	1.2
Cost (dollars)	109,284	4.5	.7
Average cost per client	$552	-------	$255
No services reported	34	-------	------

[1] Comparable data not available for fiscal year 1958.

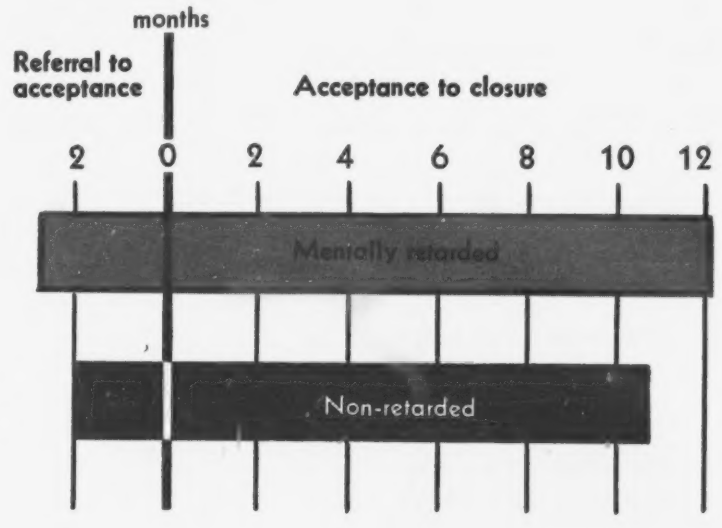
[2] Percent of total number with cost and percent of total cost.

[3] Cost means only cost to State vocational rehabilitation agencies. Some services may have been obtained free from available facilities or may have been paid for, wholly or in part, by other organizations or individuals or by client.

[4] Any rehabilitant may have received more than one type of service.

the nonretarded. Within the acceptance to closure period it required the median time of 6.0 months to prepare a retarded client for employment and 5.0 months for the nonretarded client. The median length of time needed to determine the relative success of a client on the job (employment to closure) was 2.4 months for the retarded and 2.6 months for the nonretarded.

FIGURE N.—*Median length of time to rehabilitate the mentally retarded and the non-retarded, fiscal year 1963*



In comparison to 1958, the median length of time required to process a retarded client from acceptance to closure has increased. The median time in 1958 was 10.3 months to process a rehabilitant with retardation; in 1963, 12.1 months were required.

Table 13 indicates the time elements for both the retarded and the nonretarded.

Preceding rehabilitation history

Very few of the retarded rehabilitants were former vocational rehabilitation clients.

Four percent of the retarded had been rehabilitated previously, in comparison to 11 percent of the nonretarded.

However, of those retarded with previous rehabilitation experience, significantly more, 52 percent, returned for further services less than 2 years after being closed as rehabilitated. This compares to 33 percent for the nonretarded.

Table 14 indicates the previous rehabilitation experiences for each group of rehabilitants.

TABLE 13.—*Number of months from referral to closure for the mentally retarded rehabilitated, fiscal years 1958 and 1963, and the nonretarded in fiscal year 1963*

Number of months	Mentally retarded				Nonretarded
	Fiscal year 1963		Fiscal year 1958		Fiscal year 1963
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Percent
Total rehabilitants	5,909	-----	1,578	-----	-----
Referral to acceptance:					
Number reporting	5,905	100.0	(a)	-----	100.0
Less than 1	862	14.6	-----	-----	23.3
1–3	2,875	48.7	-----	-----	52.5
4–6	1,054	17.8	-----	-----	12.7
7–12	737	12.5	-----	-----	7.4
13 or more	377	6.4	-----	-----	4.1
Not reporting	4	-----	-----	-----	-----
Acceptance to closure:					
Number reporting	5,907	100.0	1,578	100.0	100.0
Less than 7	1,487	25.2	521	33.1	32.3
7–12	1,578	26.7	425	27.0	24.3
13–18	1,091	18.5	251	15.9	14.9
19–36	1,379	23.3	272	17.2	18.9
37 or more	372	6.3	108	6.8	9.6
Not reporting	2	-----	1	-----	-----
Preparation for employment:					
Number reporting	5,899	100.0	(b)	-----	100.0
Less than 4	2,114	35.9	-----	-----	41.5
4–6	1,022	17.3	-----	-----	16.8
7–12	1,403	23.8	-----	-----	18.0
13–36	1,228	20.8	-----	-----	18.4
37 or more	132	2.2	-----	-----	5.3
Not reporting	10	-----	-----	-----	-----
Employment to closure:					
Number reporting	5,907	100.0	(b)	-----	100.0
Less than 1	143	2.4	-----	-----	2.6
1	1,779	30.1	-----	-----	27.9
2–3	2,330	39.5	-----	-----	37.1
4–6	918	15.5	-----	-----	18.2
7 or more	737	12.5	-----	-----	14.2
Not reporting	2	-----	-----	-----	-----

a Data not comparable.
b Data not available.

TABLE 14.—*Length of time from preceding rehabilitation closure to most recent acceptance of the mentally retarded and the nonretarded rehabilitated, fiscal year 1963*[a]

Number of months	Mentally retarded		Nonretarded
	Number	Percent	Percent
Total rehabilitants	5,909	-----	-----
Number reporting	5,861	100.0	100.0
No previous rehabilitation	5,649	96.4	88.6
Previously rehabilitated	212	3.6	11.4
Number of months since rehabilitation:			
Number of months known	211	100.0	100.0
Less than 25 months	109	51.6	32.8
25–48 months	67	31.8	27.4
49–72 months	17	8.1	16.8
73 months and over	18	8.5	23.0
Number of months not known	1	-----	-----
Not reporting	48	-----	-----

a Comparable data not available for fiscal year 1958.

PART II. Mental Retardation as a Secondary Disability

As indicated previously, no data have been compiled which indicate the secondary role that mental retardation may play in the rehabilitation of clients with other major disabilities.

The secondary disabling condition is the next most important disability that contributes substantially to, but is not the major basis of the employment handicap. Degree of retardation is not a factor in the definition.

For purposes of program planning, State vocational rehabilitation programs have traditionally considered only those rehabilitants whose major disablility was mental retardation. However, provision of services to the retardates, whether as a major or a secondary disabling condition, often requires unique and specialized facilities and staff.

In order to fill in this important information gap, a compilation was made of selected characteristics of rehabilitants who had mental retardation as a secondary disability.

In fiscal year 1963, 1,152 or 1 percent, of all rehabilitants were reported as having retardation as a secondary condition.

Age, sex, race, and dependents

Nearly half of the rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability (48 percent) were under 20 years of age; 96 percent were under age 45. The median age of the group was 21 years old.

Seventy-two percent of the rehabilitants with retardation as a secondary disability were male.

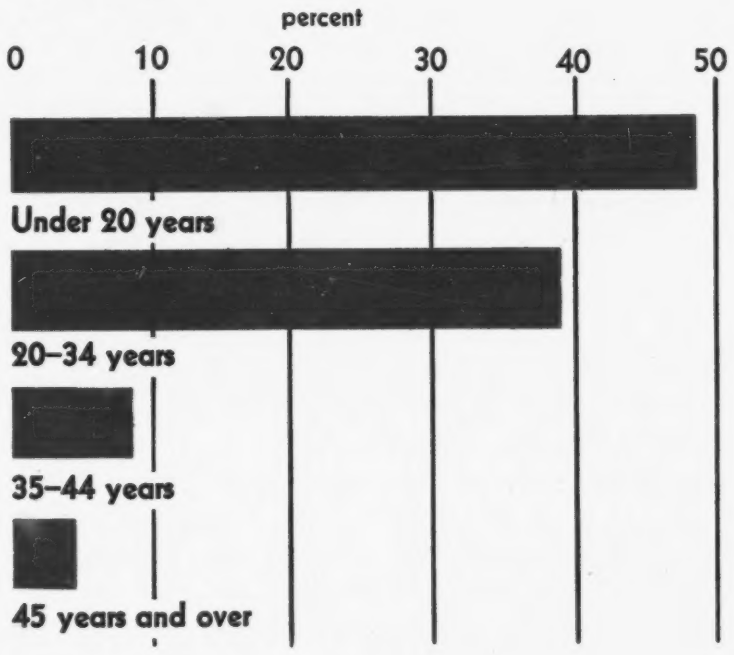
For those States reporting race, 84 of every 100 retardates rehabilitated were white and 13 per 100 were Negro.

Eighty-five of every 100 rehabilitants had no dependents. Ten of every 100 had 1–3, and 5 of every 100 had 4 or more dependents. (Table 15)

Mobility status

At acceptance, 94 percent of the rehabilitants with retardation as a secondary condition were capable of activity outside the home without help. Four percent needed the assistance of other persons and 2 percent were completely housebound.

FIGURE O.—*Age distribution of rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*



At closure, 97 percent were able to carry on activity outside the home without help, 2 percent needed the help of others and 1 percent remained housebound. (Table 16)

Major disabling condition of rehabilitants with retardation as a secondary disability

The three most prevalent major disabling conditions of the rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability were orthopedic deformities or impairments, 27 percent, epilepsy, 15 percent, and severe mental illness, 12 percent. Other frequent major disabilities were sight, aural and speech impairments. (Table 17.)

Referral source

One-quarter of the secondarily retarded were referred from educational institutions. Other large sources were individuals, 13 percent, hospitals, 12 percent, and welfare agencies, 11 percent. (Table 18.)

TABLE 15.—*Age, sex, race, and dependents of rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Characteristics	Number	Percent
AGE		
Total rehabilitants	1, 152	
Number reporting	1, 151	100. 0
Under 45 years	1, 103	95. 8
Less than 20 years	555	48. 2
20–34 years	449	39. 0
35–44 years	99	8. 6
45–64 years	48	4. 2
45–54 years	32	2. 8
55–64 years	16	1. 4
65 and over	0	
Not reporting	1	
SEX		
Number reporting	1, 152	100. 0
Male	826	71. 7
Female	326	28. 3
RACE		
Total rehabilitants	1, 152	
Number reporting	906	100. 0
White	759	83. 8
Negro	121	13. 4
Other	26	2. 8
Not reporting [a]	246	
DEPENDENTS		
Number reporting	1, 148	100. 0
None	973	84. 7
1–3	118	10. 3
4 or more	57	5. 0
Not reporting	4	

[a] Certain States do not report race.

TABLE 16.—*Mobility status of rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Mobility status	At acceptance		At closure	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total rehabilitants	1, 152		1, [illegible]	
Number reporting	1, 152	100. 0	1, 152	100. 0
Housebound	26	2. 3	16	1. 4
Capable of activity outside home	1, 126	97. 7	1, 136	98. 6
With help of other person	47	4. 1	21	1. 8
Without help of other person	1, 079	93. 6	1, 115	96. 8
Not reporting	0		0	

TABLE 17.—*Major disabling condition of rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Major disabling condition	Number	Percent
Total rehabilitants	1, 152	
Number reporting	1, 152	100. 0
Amputation or absence of extremities	36	3. 1
Orthopedic deformities or impairments	306	26. 6
Blind in both eyes	76	6. 6
Other visual inpairments	71	6. 2
Deaf, unable to talk	31	2. 7
Deaf, able to talk	8	. 7
Other impairments of hearing	51	4. 4
Impaired speech	56	4. 9
Psychosis and psychoneurosis	136	11. 8
Cardiac diseases	30	2. 6
Epilepsy	168	14. 6
Tuberculosis, pulmonary	11	. 9
Disabling conditions, N.E.C	172	14. 9
Not reporting	0	

FIGURE P.—*Frequently occurring major disabling condition among rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

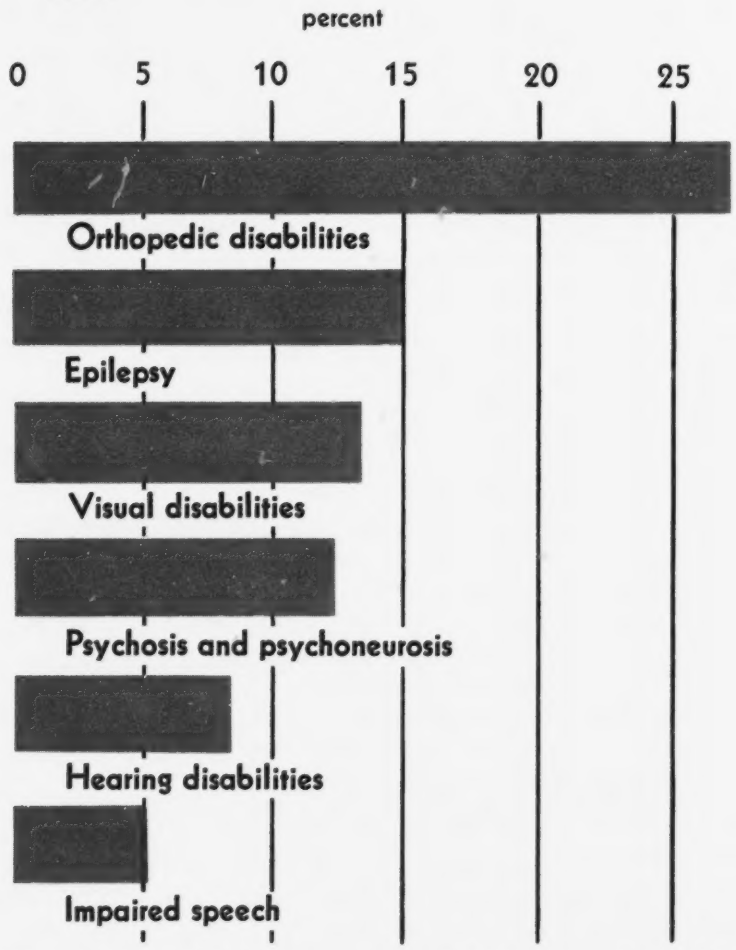
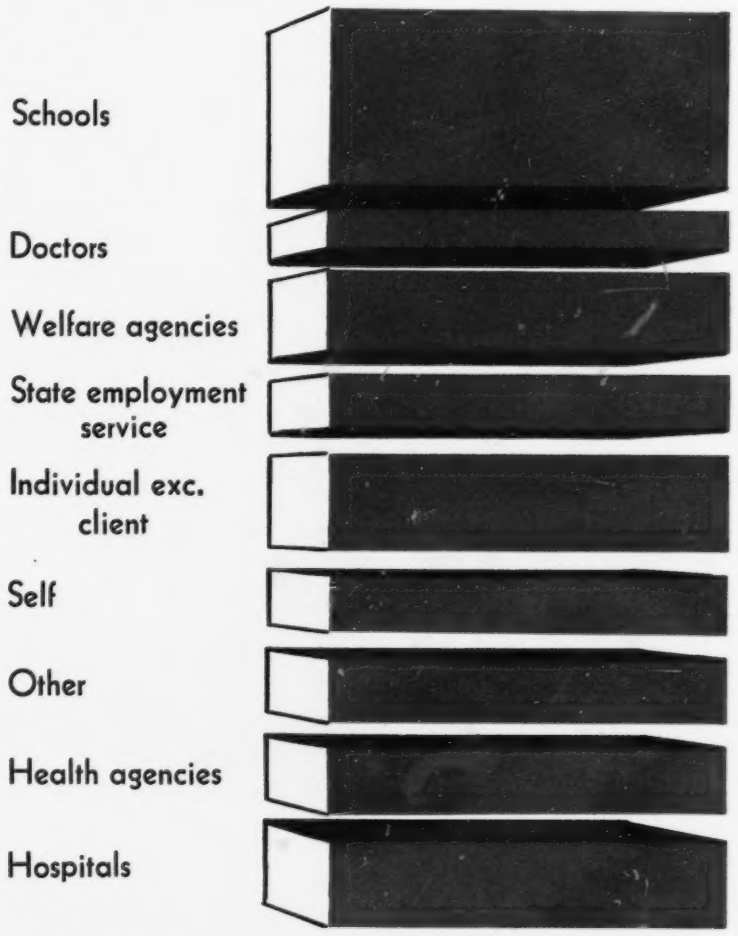


TABLE 18.—*Referral source of rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Referral source	Number	Percent
Total rehabilitants	1,152	
Number reporting	1,151	100.0
Educational institutions	292	25.4
Hospitals and sanatoriums	133	11.6
Other health agencies (public and private including rehabilitation centers)	115	10.0
Physicians, N.E.C	62	5.4
Bureau of Old-Age and Survivors' Insurance	20	1.7
Workmen's compensation agencies	12	1.0
Welfare agencies (public and private)	130	11.3
State employment services	76	6.6
Artificial appliance company	5	.4
Individual, except client himself	145	12.6
Self-referred persons, N.E.C	87	7.6
Other source	74	6.4
Not reporting	1	

FIGURE Q.—*Referral sources of rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*



Primary source of support and public assistance status

The most frequent primary source of support for the secondarily retarded was family and friends—72 percent.

Other large sources were public assistance agencies, 11 percent, and current earnings, 7 percent. Five percent relied on public tax-supported institutions. (Table 19)

As indicated above, 11 percent or 127 rehabilitants relied on public assistance as their *primary* or largest single source of support, however, 151 or 13 percent of all the rehabilitants with retardation as a secondary disability received some public assistance benefits before rehabilitation. The aggregate payment was $141,048 per year. After rehabilitation, less than half these clients were receiving public assistance payments at the reduced amount of $51,036 per year. (Table 20)

FIGURE R.—*Primary source of support for rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

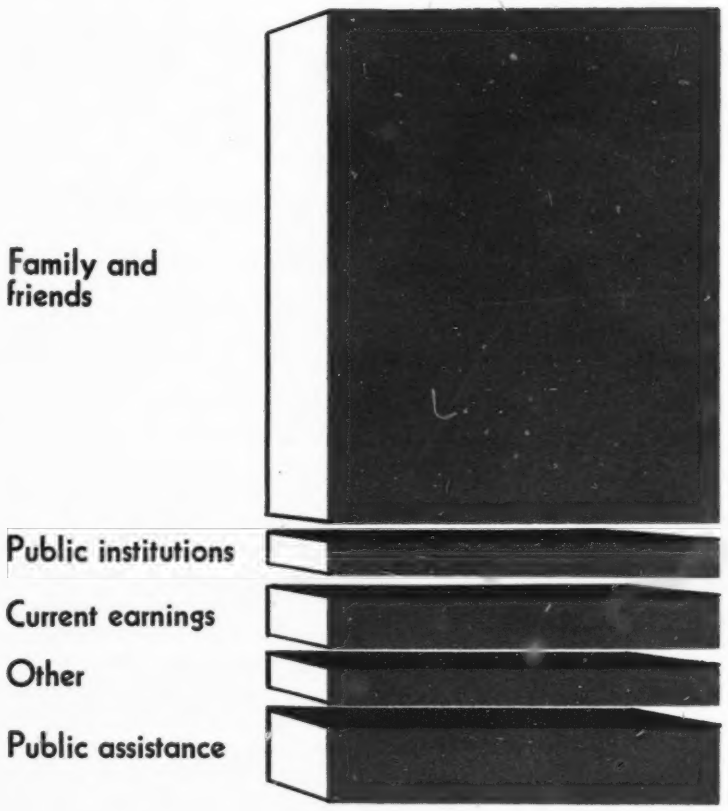


TABLE 19.—*Primary source of support for rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Primary source of support *	Number	Percent
Total rehabilitants	1, 152	------
Number reporting	1, 151	100. 0
Current earnings	82	7. 1
Family and friends	830	72. 2
Private relief agency	4	. 3
Public assistance	127	11. 0
Partly from Federal funds	91	7. 9
Without Federal funds	36	3. 1
Public institution—tax supported	61	5. 3
Workmen's compensation	9	. 8
OASI disability benefits	12	1. 0
Other benefits including unemployment benefits	17	1. 5
Annuity or other nondisability insurance benefits	0	------
Disability or sickness benefits (private insurance); savings; other sources	9	8
Not reporting	1	------

* Primary source of support is client's largest single source, not necessarily his sole source.

TABLE 20.—*Public assistance recipients among rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Public assistance status	At acceptance		At closure	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total rehabilitants	1, 152	-----	1, 152	-----
Number reporting	1, 151	100. 0	1, 151	100. 0
Clients receiving public assistance	151	13. 1	65	5. 6
From programs with Federal funds	104	9. 0	54	4. 6
From programs without Federal funds	45	3. 9	10	. 9
From both kinds of programs	2	. 2	1	. 1
Clients not receiving public assistance	1, 000	86. 9	1, 086	94. 4
Clients not reported as to receiving public assistance	1	-----	1	-----
Aggregate monthly amount of public assistance	$11, 754	-----	$4, 253	-----

Earnings

Before receiving rehabilitation services, 85 percent of the secondarily retarded rehabilitants reported no earnings. Of the 15 percent who were earning wages, well over half (57 percent) were making less than $20 per week. After rehabilitation, 89 percent of the secondarily retarded were receiving wages and nearly half (49 percent) were earning over $40 per week. (Table 21)

Work status and occupation at closure

Before rehabilitation, 88 percent of the rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary condition were not working. Only 8 percent were in the competitive labor market, and the others were employed in sheltered workshops, were homemakers and unpaid family workers, or were self-employed.

After rehabilitation, 7 out of 10 of these rehabilitants were employed as competitive workers; 2 of 10 were wage earners in sheltered workshops. (Table 22)

The most frequent classification of occupations entered into by the secondarily retarded was

TABLE 21.—*Weekly earnings at acceptance and at closure of rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Weekly earnings	At acceptance		At closure	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
Total rehabilitants	1, 152	-------	1, 152	------
Number reporting	1, 145	100. 0	1, 151	100. 0
No earnings	978	85. 4	127	11. 0
Less than $10	54	4. 7	63	5. 5
$10–$19	42	3. 7	134	11. 6
$20–$39	47	4. 1	326	28. 3
$40–$59	17	1. 5	362	31. 5
$60–$79	5	. 4	108	9. 4
$80 and over	2	. 2	31	2. 7
Not reporting	7	-------	1	------

TABLE 22.—*Work status at acceptance and at closure for rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Work status	Number	Percent
Total rehabilitants	1, 152	------
Total reporting at acceptance	1, 152	100. 0
Total reporting at closure	1, 152	100. 0
Wage or salaried workers:		
Competitive labor market:		
At acceptance	93	8. 1
At closure	844	73. 3
Sheltered workshops:		
At acceptance	10	. 9
At closure	179	15. 5
State-agency-managed business enterprises:		
At acceptance	0	------
At closure	1	. 1
Self-employed:		
At acceptance	9	. 8
At closure	32	2. 8
Homemakers and unpaid family workers:		
At acceptance	28	2. 4
At closure	96	8. 3
Not working at acceptance:		
Students	161	14. 0
Others	851	73. 8
Not reporting at acceptance	0	------
Not reporting at closure	0	------

service types of employment (34 percent). Other frequent occupational types were unskilled jobs (18 percent) and semiskilled work (15 percent). (Table 23)

FIGURE S.—*Most frequent types of closure occupations of rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

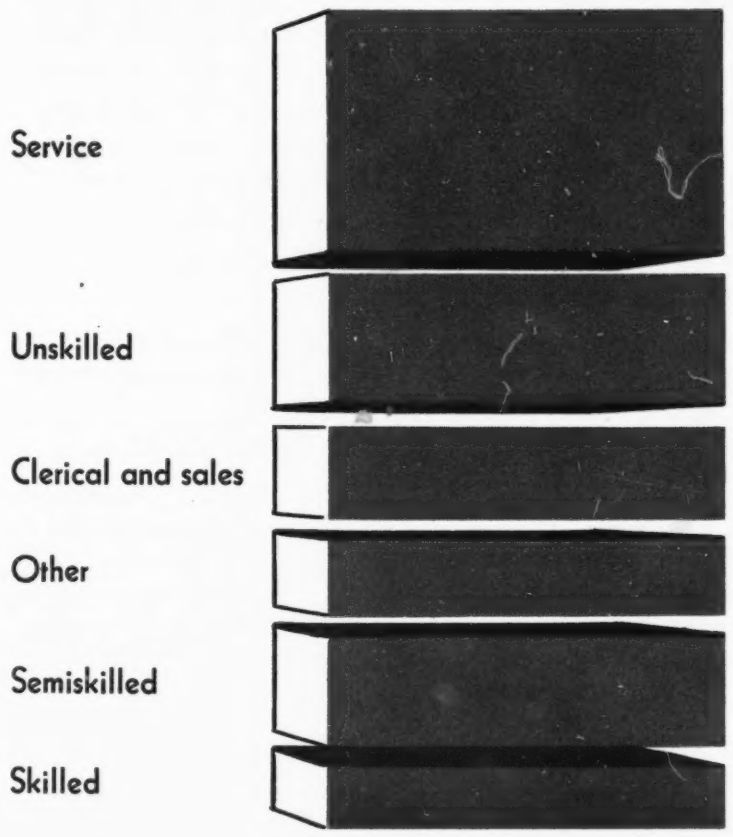


TABLE 23.—*Type of occupation at closure for rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Type of occupation	Number	Percent
Total rehabilitants	1, 152	100. 0
Work in sheltered workshops	179	15. 5
Homemakers and unpaid family workers	96	8. 3
Occupations	877	76. 2
Not reporting	0	------
Occupations	877	100. 0
Professional	1	. 1
Semiprofessional, managerial and official	12	1. 4
Clerical and sales	110	12. 5
Service	297	33. 9
Agriculture	82	9. 4
Skilled	81	9. 2
Semiskilled	134	15. 3
Unskilled	160	18. 2

Applicant status for Old-Age and Survivors' Disability Insurance (OASDI) benefits

Ninety-two percent of the rehabilitants with

retardation as a secondary disability were not applicants for OASDI benefits.

However, of the 8 percent who were, nearly half (48 percent) were either receiving, or were declared eligible to receive benefits by the OASDI agency (allowed). The vast majority of applicants were under 44 years of age (93 percent). The age of those allowed benefits, however, was not a crucial factor in determining eligibility as approximately half the applicants under age 45 were allowed benefits and half over age 45 were allowed benefits. (Table 24)

TABLE 24.—*Status of OASI disability insurance applications for rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Application status and age	Number	Percent
Total rehabilitants	1, 152	------
Number reporting	1, 151	100. 0
OASI applicants	91	7. 9
Non-OASI applicants	1, 060	92. 1
Application status: [a] All applicants	91	100. 0
Applicants allowed OASI benefits	44	48. 3
Applicants denied OASI benefits	24	26. 4
Application in process	7	7. 7
Applicant status unknown	16	17. 6
Age of applicants: All applicants	91	100. 0
44 years and under	85	93. 4
45 years and over	6	6. 6
Age by OASI status:		
Age 44 years and under	85	100. 0
Applicants allowed OASI benefits	41	48. 3
Applicants denied OASI benefits	23	27. 0
Application in process	5	5. 9
Applicant status unknown	16	18. 8
Age 45 years and over	6	100. 0
Applicants allowed OASI benefits	3	50. 0
Applicants denied OASI benefits	1	16. 7
Application in process	2	33. 3
Applicant status unknown	0	------
Not reporting	1	------

[a] Allowed means rehabilitants were found to be under disability and were qualified to received benefits. Denied means rehabilitants were not found to be under disability and were not qualified to receive benefits.

Cost of services for the major disabling condition

Costs as discussed in this section relate only to direct purchased services required by the client. Costs of counseling, guidance, placement and administration are not included.

The average direct cost of rehabilitating a person with mental retardation as a secondary disability was $518 per client.

The two highest average costs were for the secondarily retarded with blindness, $1,101, and for those with cardiac disabilities, $701. The two lowest average costs were for tuberculosis, $77, and severe mental illness, $73. (Table 25)

TABLE 25.—*Cost of services [a] for major disabling conditions of rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Disabling condition	Number with cost	Total cost	Average cost
Total number reporting cost	1, 082	$560, 800	$518
Amputation or absence of extremities	34	16, 714	492
Orthopedic deformities or impairments	293	147, 657	504
Blind in both eyes	75	82, 599	1, 101
Other visual impairments	70	31, 129	445
Deaf, unable to talk	29	14, 834	512
Deaf, able to talk	8	3, 105	388
Other impairments of hearing	50	18, 200	364
Impaired speech	54	23, 961	444
Psychosis and psychoneurosis	113	42, 141	373
Cardiac diseases	28	19, 626	701
Epilepsy	159	90, 910	572
Tuberculosis, pulmonary	9	697	77
Disabling conditions, N.E.C.	160	69, 227	433
Disabling condition not reported	0	------	------

[a] Cost means only cost to State vocational rehabilitation agencies. Some services may have been obtained free from available facilities or may have been paid for, wholly or in part, by other organizations or individuals or by client. The cost of administration, guidance, counseling and placement is excluded.

Type of services received and cost of these services

As indicated previously, costs specified here exclude costs of counseling, guidance, placement and administration.

Nearly 95 percent of the rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability received a service which was charged to the State agency.

The two most required services were diagnostic procedures (95 percent) and training and training materials (50 percent). The two least required

services were tools and related equipment (3 percent) and hospitalization (6 percent). In relation to the total cost, training and training materials claimed the largest percentage of the budget (45 percent).

The two highest average costs per client for a specific service were for training and materials, $463, and maintenance and transportation, $391. (Table 26)

TABLE 26.—*Specified types of services received and cost of these services excluding administration, guidance, counseling and placement for rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Types of services	Number	Percent [1]
Total rehabilitants	1,152	------
Total with cost [2] to agency [3]	1,082	------
Total cost to VR agency (dollars)	560,800	100.0
Diagnostic procedures:		
With cost	1,030	95.2
Cost (dollars)	99,559	17.7
Average cost per client	$97	------
Surgery and treatment:		
With cost	166	15.3
Cost (dollars)	23,132	4.1
Average cost per client	$139	------
Prosthetic appliances:		
With cost	145	13.4
Cost (dollars)	16,878	3.0
Average cost per client	$116	------
Hospitalization and convalescent care:		
With cost	67	6.2
Cost (dollars)	17,352	3.1
Average cost per client	$259	------
Training and training materials:		
With cost	545	50.4
Cost (dollars)	252,344	45.0
Average cost per client	$463	------
Maintenance and transportation:		
With cost	315	29.1
Cost (dollars)	123,044	22.0
Average cost per client	$391	------
Tools, equipment, and licenses:		
With cost	33	3.0
Cost (dollars)	8,697	1.5
Average cost per client	$264	------
Other:		
With cost	33	3.0
Cost (dollars)	19,794	3.6
Average cost per client	$600	------
No services reported	7	------

[1] Percent of total number with cost and percent of total cost.

[2] Cost means only cost to State vocational rehabilitation agencies. Some services may have been obtained free from available facilities or may have been paid for, wholly or in part, by other organization or individuals or by client.

[3] Any rehabilitant may have received more than one type of service.

Length of time required to rehabilitate a secondarily retarded client, and previous rehabilitation experience

The median time from the point of referral to acceptance as a client was 2.9 months for the secondarily retarded. A median of 13.8 months was needed from acceptance to closure. Within

TABLE 27.—*Number of months from referral to closure for rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Number of months	Number	Percent
Total rehabilitants	1,152	------
Referral to acceptance:		
Number reporting	1,149	100.0
Less than 1	152	13.2
1–3	520	45.3
4–6	224	19.5
7–12	154	13.4
13 or more	99	8.6
Not reporting	3	------
Acceptance to closure:		
Number reporting	1,150	100.0
Less than 7	261	22.7
7–12	271	23.6
13–18	198	17.2
19–36	289	25.1
37 or more	131	11.4
Not reporting	2	------
Preparation for employment:		
Number reporting	1,145	100.0
Less than 4	430	37.6
4–6	162	14.1
7–12	230	20.1
13–36	267	23.3
37 or more	56	4.9
Not reporting	7	------
Employment to closure:		
Number reporting	1,151	100.0
Less than 1	16	1.4
1	334	29.0
2–3	426	37.0
4–6	201	17.5
7 or more	174	15.1
Not reporting	1	------

TABLE 28.—*Length of time from preceding rehabilitation closure to most recent acceptance for rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary disability, fiscal year 1963*

Number of months	Number	Percent
Total rehabilitants	1,152	------
Number reporting	1,152	100.0
No previous rehabilitation	1,061	92.1
Previously rehabilitated	91	7.9
Number of months since rehabilitation:		
Number of months known	89	100.0
Less than 25 months	36	40.5
25–48 months	20	22.5
49–72 months	18	20.2
73 months and over	15	16.8
Number of months not known	2	------
Not reporting	0	------

this latter period, a median of 6.1 months was necessary to prepare a client for employment and 2.6 months was needed from employment to the official closure of the case. (Table 27)

In regard to previous rehabilitation experience of the rehabilitants with mental retardation as a secondary condition, 92 of every 100 were not previously rehabilitated. Of those who were, 41 of every 100 returned in less than 2 years for further services. (Table 28).

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